### **Burt Lancaster dies at 80**

LOS ANGELES (AFP) — Actor Burton Lancaster, a Hellywood icon who started his career as a circus acrobat and went on to win an Oscar for the lead role in "Elmer Gantry," has died at the age of 80, his wife Susie said Friday. The acter who suffered a stroke of 80, his wife Susie said Friday. The acter who suffered a stroke four years ago that left him partially paralysed died late Thursday of a heart attack, his wife said. "He went very, very peacefully. We were together, thank God," she said. "This last week he's been better than ever. It came as a complete surprise." "He was paming my hair and touching my face and he took a sigh and that was it." His career included more than 70 films, both American and European, such as "The Leopard" by Luchino Viscomi, "Gunfight at the OK Corral" by John Sturges, "The Train" and "The Birdman of Alcatraz" by John Franketheimer. Lancaster won the Festival of Venice award in 1962 fer this last movie, and he created Festival of Venice award in 1962 fer this last movie, and he created new sensual images with Deborah Kerr in a scene at the edge of the surf in "From Here to Eternity" in 1953, fer which he was nominated at the Academy Awards, based on James Jones' passionale novel about vengeance in pre-war Pearl Harbour.



### U.N. protests Israel's use of shells

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United Nations in New York and its force commander in southern Lebanon have protested to Israel over the firing of anti-personnel shells that killed several civilians in a Lebanese village, U.N. spokesman said on Friday. Reports from the area said Israel late on Wednesday fired tank shells packed with hundreds of steel darts, which the U.N. Interum Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) said were banned under a Geneva convention on methods of warfare. U.N. spokesman Ahmad Fawzi said in a prepared statement: "The secretary-general is deeply concerned by the escalation of tension along the Israeli-Lebanese border, and in particular hy a report from the force commander of UNIFIL, Major-General (Trond) Furuhovde (of Norway), that Israel fired anti-personnel shells on the Lebanese Norway), that Israel fired anti-personnel shells on the Lebanese village of Nabatiyeh Al-Fawqa, killing several civilians, including a woman and a 14-year-old boy."

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# New Parliament session opens today

- King to deliver speech from the Throne
- Peace treaty expected to dominate debate
- Islamists undecided on boycott of Clinton speech
- Srour favourite to win speakership in first round

By Ayman Safadi Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein will today open the second ordinary session of the Lower House which will be dominated by debate. of the peace treaty that the Kingdom will sign with Israel on Wednesday

The speech from the Throne, which King Hussein will deliver, will explain the implications of the peace treaty which will be later presented to parliament for ratification before it is signed by the King into law.

All indications are that the session will witness heated debate over the treaty but even Islamic Action Front (IAF) deputies say the accord has support among the 80 memhers of the Honse. According to reliable parliamentary sources, the treaty enjoys the support of some 55 members of the Lower

Having reconciled themselves to their inability to abort the treaty, IAF nfficials

say they will focus their efforts on blocking any steps towards normalisation of ties with Israel after the treaty is

IAF Secretary Ishak Al Farhan said the treaty poses grave dangers to the nation and the Islamists will work on exposing its dangers to the people as they fight norma-lisation.

IAF spokesman Hamzeh Mansour said: "We will resist the treaty with all the power that we have" but stressed that the IAF will only employ constitutional and democratic means in its fight against the treaty which he described as "a catastrophe for the coun-

But despite their conviction that the majority of lawmakers will support the treaty. Islamist deputies said they will lobby their colleagues to block its ratification.

"We urge all deputies to vote against the treaty," lead-ing IAF Deputy Abdullah Al Akaileh said as Mr. Mansour stressed that fighting peace with Israel is a duty that

law-makers have to shoulder. While Islamist leaders said they are still studying their options on how to fight the treaty, they indicated that they will not withdraw from Parliament which they said should continue to have opposition to the peace pro-

The parhamentary sources said the Islamists constitute the majority of deputies who oppose the treaty and could be joined by some leftist and pan-Arabist lawmakers. But they said the Islamists know they do not have a chance to

Over 50 deputies have already expressed their support to the developments on the Jordanian-Israeli track of the peace negotiations in a letter they sent to King. Hussein upon the signing of the Washington Declaration on

July 25. "I am in favour of activating the role of the House and in putting deputies in front of their national responsibili-ties," against peace with Israel, said Mr. Mansour.

Dr. Farhan said the opinions within the front on how to deal with the peace effort vary from "the far right to the far left" but other Islamist leaders said the majority of the members of the front arein favour of working against the treaty from within the

But both IAF Deputies Hammam Sa'id and Mr. Mansour warned that the Islamists' final decision on whether to withdraw from Parliament or not will depend on how the government deals with the House.

"If the government continues to marginalise the role of the House, the view in favour of withdrawing will gain strength," said Dr. Sa'id, who is considered to be hawkish member of the

Mr. Mansour echoed the remarks by his colleague, saying if the government en-croaches on "what is left of democratic practices," more IAF members will push to-

(Continued on page 7)



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Friday addresses senior army officers (Armed

## Israel to quit Jordan's land in three months

Delineation of Israel's eastern border a breakthrough, ends major cause of concern Italy ready to design Red-Dead canal

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said Friday Israel would complete its withdrawal from Jordanian territory in three months after the signing of the peace treaty with Jordan and not nine months as earlier expected.

Crown Prince Hassan also said Israel's agreement to delineate its eastern borders was a great breakthrough that dispelled a long-standing concern of Jordan.

The Crown Prince, addressing army officers, also said Jordanian-Israeli peace trea-ty initialled in Amman on Monday should read the document before criticising

the Kingdom.

The Crown Prince, who was closely involved in the peace negotiations with Israel, also revealed that:

- Jordan has a commitment from Israel that the Kingdom would get 50 million cubic metres of water immediately, another 50 million cubic metres from dams. In addition, the Kingdom would also get 50 million cubic metres from a desalination plant and another 15 million cubic metres from other sources, eventually\_ raising the Jordanian share from the region's water

sonrces to 215 million cubic - Italy has undertaken to design the proposed canal linking the Red Sea with the Dead Sea. The Italian offer was conveyed to Jordan during the recent visit of Rome's foreign minister, Antonio

 Jordan is considering renaming the Sheikh Hussein Bridge west of Irbid as the

was opened near Agaba and Eilat on Ang. 8, sbortly after His Majesty King Hussein and Israeli prime minister signed the Washington Declaration.

The Crown Prince has said that he had been in touch with people who oppose the peace process, asking them how they could criticise the Jordanian-Israeli peace trea-ty when they did not even know what it contained.

The Israeli agreement to delineate its eastern borders removed a major cause of concern for Jordan since it signalled an end to the "talks about Zionist expansion to the east of the River Jordan and about obliterating the East Jordanian identity," the Crown Prince said.

Prince Hassan said Jordan has its national will and its pivotal role, and it had charted the treaty without seeking the assistance of any-

The Crown Prince warned that any attempt to wage a battle with Jordan will not serve anybody.

Prince Hassan said those who are trying to harm Jordanian-Palestinian relations are not yet aware of the Consequences of their deeds.
The Crown Prince said

these relations will not be affected by differences with the Palestinian leadership. Prince Hassan said the Gulf crisis was a severe and crushing blow to the Arab

fold, noting that Jordan had adopted its independent position towards the crisis.

Prince Hassan called for the careful reading and veri-fication of what is being said and written now and in the weeks, months and years to come, saying that such careful and thoughtful reading is great significance.

When we talk about the battle for sustaining the con-cepts of security and stability, which in lead to talking about the independent national, regional and pan-Arab personality, we will in fact be talking about the need to work hand in hand to achieve the best for all of us," the

Prince Hassan stressed that when we talk about participation in making peace or preparing for it, we will be talking about a project, involving all and affecting all."

Prince Hassan reviewed developments since Israel

occupied Palestine in 1948, saying that almost one century after the beginning of the Arab-Zionist conflict, "the exciting thing is that talk about Zionist expansion East of the River Jordan has stopped, and talk about obliterating the East Jordan identity has ended."

However, the Crown Prince said, the Jordanian role is a pivotal role in the region and "we have always sought to find the minimum degree for coordination."

When we take a political decision we take it out of our conviction, and nobody in the Arab World expects anybody else to speak on his behalf, particularly these days when the will to make a collective decision has diminished," Prince Hassan said. He said he could not blame

(Continued on page 7)

## Clinton to visit Syria on Thursday

WASHINGTON (Agencies)

— U.S. President Bill Clinton will go to Syria on Thurston will go to Syria della Forst day during his Middle East tour, the White House said

During his stay in Damas-cus, Mr. Clinton will meet with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad

Mr. Clinton is due to arrive in Cairo on Wednesday, then visit Jordan, Israel, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, the White House said in a statement.

It will be the president's first tour of the Middle East and underscores the acceleration of the peace process.

Mr. Clinton is to attend the

signing Wednesday of a peace treaty between Jordan and Israel - an achievement similar in magnitude to the accord between Israel and Egypt signed some 15 years ago.
Mr. Clinton will address

the Knesset, Israel's parliament, then inspect U.S. troops deployed in Kuwait and travel to Cairo to pay homage to Egyptian Presi-dent Hosni Mubarak for his role as a mediator in the But Syria has been a stick-

ing point in the peace pro-cess, and Mr. Clinton will be the first U.S. president to travel to Syria since Richard Nixon visited in 1974. Syria remains on the U.S. list of countries that support

The president said terrorism is a "serious issne" be-

tween the two countries "hut I do not believe that we can permit it to keep us from pursuing a comprehensive

Mr. Clinton said his second goal is to push the peace process forward. He is to attend the signing of the peace treaty between Israel and Jordan on Wednesday on the border between the two

Asked if he was concerned about his own personal security, Mr. Clinton said that "I have confidence in the security capacity of the governments in the countries that I visit and the work of our own secret service.

Israeli security officials. fear Islamic fundamentalists launch attacks during U.S. President Clinton's visit next week to occupied Jerusalem, Israel's military radio reported Friday. Police and security agents.

have been tipped off to be prepared, hnt have no speci-fic information, the officials

The daily newspaper Maariv reported that fears were centred on occupied Jerusalem where Mr. Clinton is expected on Thursday to address parliament.

Bani

Hamida

## Israel-PLO liaison group to meet on self-rule, violence

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Foreign Minister Shimon Peres will head an Israeli team to talks with Palestinians in Cairo next week on expanding Palestinian self-rule to the occupied West an aide said on Friday.

Bank and Palestinian attacks, "We are going to Cairo on Sunday," Mr. Peres' aide Behira Berdugo told Reuters. Asked what the one-day meeting of the Israel-Palestinian liaison committee

think there are some subjects like the elections and what's happened in the last week in Palestinian elections are the next stage of the year-old. Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) peace deal which launched self-rule in the Gaza Strip and the

West Bank town of Jericho.

Elections will pave the way

for expanding of Palestinian

would cover, she said: "I

self-rule to the rest of the West Bank, still under Israeli occupation.

Palestinians have accused Israel of footdragging on set-ting up elections after which self-rule would extend to the rest of the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's office also confirmed the meeting. It said Arafat adviser Nabil Shaath would lead the Palestinian team.

Since Oct. 9, guerrillas of the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas have shot up a West Jerusalem nightspot, killing twn people, kidnapped and according to Israel killed an Israeli soldier, and bombed a Tel Aviv hus kill-

ing 21 people.

Israel, which has approved measures to confront Hamas, has demanded the Palestinian authority running Gaza and Jericho crack down on Islamic militants.

In Tel Aviv, right-wing Israelis shouting "death to Arabs" traded blows with supporters of the Israeli-Palestinian peace process

bolding a vigil near the site of the Tel Aviv bus bombing. Hundreds of people packed Dizengoff Square, over-looking the spot of the bombing, for the demonstration called by the Israeli-based

Peace bloc. Scuffles quickly broke out. Signs calling for a continua-tion of peace efforts with the PLO were ripped from the hands of demonstrators.1

"You are a traitor. You should be ashamed of yourself," one right-winger shouted at a demonstrator. "What is more respectful to the dead than this?" was

the reply.
Police rushed to the scene to form a protective circle around the Peace bloc mem-

### Katyushas land in N. Israel

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — A barrage of Katyusha rockets fell in northern Israel on Friday, hitting a house but causmg no injuries, the army said. Israel Radio said some re-

sidents spent the night in bomh shelters after the first volley of rockets was fired and fell harmlessly in the north Thursday night about Israel army radio said

Israeli tanks returned fire. The army spokesman's office said it was unable to say whether targets were hit. Between 5 a.m. and

p.m., there were several rounds of rocket barrages in the north, the army said. A house on a communal farm were hit, hut they were emp-ty at the time, an official said. The location was not given,

standard policy designed to prevent anti-Israel gunners from knowing what they hit. In Lebanon Thursday, gov-Israeli artillery barrages that killed seven people and in-jured four in South Lebanon following a deadly bombing in Tel Aviv.

President Elias Hrawi and Prime Minister Rafik Hariri insisted that Israel withdraw from the border area, a buffer Israel set up to screen it from attacks.

Police reported that five civilians and two Lebanese soldiers were killed in the southern market town of Nabatiyeh by shelling from the "security zone" by Israeli troops and their allied militia, the South Lehanon Army (SLA), on Wednesday. The howitzer fire followed

guerrilla attacks on the zone, including a roadside bomh ambush that injured two SLA fighters. The fundamentalist Hizbollah claimed responsihility for the amhush.

State-run Beirut radio said the shelling was an Israeli reprisal for Wednesday's Tel Aviv bus attack. Israel played down the

rocket attacks and indicated

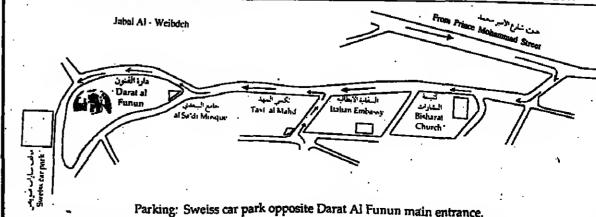
it was not interested in raising

### DON'T MISS the LAST TWO DAYS " Nomadic Inspirations"

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### U.S. and U.K. warn Iraq against reinforcing south UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The United States are parately to Iraq's U.N. rep-Britain conveyed a similar and Britain have warned that resentative, Nizar Hamdoun, British U.N. mission. they would respond with said American and British force if Baghdad sends milit-

ary reinforcements south of "Iraq may not enhance its the 32nd Parallel in Iraq, military capabilities below the 32nd Parallel. Any violadiplomats said. But at the same time Pention of this requirement tagon officials in Washington would have serious consequannounced that the deployences and would involve ment of U.S. forces in the appropriate and decisive response hy our government," region would be scaled hack a U.S. official said. dramatically in response to

Iraq should immediately Iraq's withdrawal of forces from the southern border withdraw to the north all the forces it sent south after Sept. area near Kuwait. More than 100,000 U.S. 20, the official said, putting a troops were taken off alert date on the start of what and about 17,000 Marines Washington charged was a hostile Iraqi deployment near scheduled to go to the Gulf the Kuwait horder. would not be deployed, said

"Iraq may not again utilise the Pentagon officials. The its military or other forces in United States still has 26,000 a hostile or provocative mantroops in the region, about ner to threaten neither its 5,000 on the ground. U.S. Amhassador neighbours or U.N. opera-Madeleine Alhright and Brittions in Iraq," the official ish Ambassador David Han-

warning to Mr. Hamdoun, according to a member of the France was not expected to

follow suit for the moment but French diplomatic sources said French Ambassador Jean-Bernard Merimee met Tuesday with Mr. Hamdoun to underline the importance of a U.N. resolution adopted last weekend.

Sandi Arabia's King Fahd, in an interview published Friday, made his strongest public statement suggesting that Saddam Hussein must be toppled from power in Iraq.

King Fahd told Egypt's state-owned Al Ahram daily that despite the easing of the crisis over Iraqi troop movements near Kuwait, the Gulf countries will remain alert against new threats from Iraq until the Iraqi leader is gone.

(Continued on page 7)

## U.N. to withdraw forces from Somalia by March

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The United Nanons plans to withdraw its peacekeeping force that has been protecting food relief shipments in Somalia because of increasing lawlessness and continuing clan warfare.

The pullout is expected to be completed by March, but the world body will continue trying to provide humanitarian aid without the security force, Security Council President David Hannay said

A delegation of the Security Council will be dispatched to Somalia on Monday to carry that message to clan leaders who are still vying for control of the chaotic coun-

"Their message will be that, alas, the United Nations efforts in Somalia have been really seriously undermined by the lack of progress towards political reconciliation and by the lack of cooperation on security isses, and that this implies a phased and orderly withdrawal of the UNOSOM...," said Mr. Hannay the British ambassa-

The United Nations Op-eration in somalia (UN-OSOM) currently has a 17,300-member force, which protects food convoys but makes no attempt to halt clan fighting. It took over from a U.S.-led multinational force the thered Somalia in De-

\*\*\*\*\* 1992 to end starvathreatened hun-Citious and of people. and cheed more than two million of them to leave their deprehestricken farms amidthe lighting.

Mr. Hannay said the Security Council his willing to contemplate a continued political presence there if that is helpful to the Somalis, and also will do its best... to sustain humanitarian operaquire a ... greater degree of cooperation than has hitherto The Security Council deci-

sion was presaged by an Oct. 14 report by U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali.

In the document, the U.N. chief warned that "while some of the major humanitarian objectives have been met, any natural or manmade disaster in Somalia could result in a renewed massive emergency...

"It is essential, therefore, that relief programmes for the most vulnerable segments of the population, support for basic community services and food security and nutritional surveillance programmes be continued. In addition, the repatraition of some 500,000 refugees and the resettlement of up to 400,000 internaally displaced persons must be tackled as soon as possible."

Chaos erupted in Mogadishu's streets after the de-parture of American troops in March. Clan militiamen have rearmed and openly roam the capital in trucks mounted with weapons.

As recently as last Saturday, lawlessness in Mogadishu prompted the World Food Programme to evacuate seven of its 18 foreign employees to Nairobi, Kenya.

Brenda Barton, a spokes-woman for the U.N. office in Nairobi, said that extortion demands and threats against the agency's workers have increased in the last three weeks. Some Somalis have demanded outrageous payments for repairing equipment damaged in fighting and other jobs.

In recent weeks, intense fighting as erupted near the U.N. compound, formerly

the U.S. embassy.
As of the end of September, the United Nations said the following countries had police troops or personnel involved in the peacekeeping force in Somalia: Bangladesh, Botswana, Egypt, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Itabeen forthcoming from the ly, South Korea, Malaysia,

Neapl, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines. Romania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

### Somali leader in Uganda

Somalia faction Abdirahman Ahmad Ali has held talks with Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni in Kampala and brief him on the Somali reconciliation conference to be beld in Mogadishu, he said

Thursday. Mr. Ali, a former Somali envoy to Germany and leader of the Somali National Move-ment (SNM) told Mr. Museveni that the October 27 conference will aim to reconcile Somalia's 16 warring factions and iron out differences among them to allow formation of a government based on a federal system.

"I am optimistic that this conference will lead to a broad-based government for Somalia after years of anarchy, and the formation of a new federal political system based on a strong regional autonomy." Mr. Ali said in

an interview.,
"We think Somalia will have two federal states, north and south, with a democratic central government," Mr. Ali

"We all support this arrangement and every group will come with a commitment to see the pacification of Somalia which makes this conference different from others before," he added. Mr. Ali said that 12 of the

16 Somali warring factions had agreed to attend the Oct. 27 conference, with the exception of self-styled Somalia President Ali Madhi Monammad, who is still reluctant to participate, although mem-bers of his group of 12 had confirmed their participation.

But negotiations between him and members of his group were still under way to convince him to attend the

> capacity of a country has been set in place.

AL-QAQAH, Iraq (AFP) -

A yellow sign stuck to the

walls of Iraq's largest explo-

sives factory warns it is for-

bidden to block the view of

U.N. cameras permanently

monitoring everything going

to know about everything

taking place here down to the

smallest detail, and in a rare

show of openness Iraqi au-

thorities allowed foreign

the-clock from a hotel room

It is the first time in the

history of international rela-

tions that such a control sys-

tem to monitor the military

in the capital.

The United Nations wants

term weapons monitoring This site was built in the 1980s with help from the for-

U.N. Resolution 687 and no

longer making missiles with a

range exceeding 150

Two of the U.N. resolu-

tions adopted after Iraq in-

vaded Kuwait in August 1990

demanded that Baghdad get

rid of all its weapons of mass

destruction, and allow U.N.

observers to install a long-

kilometres.

journalists into the site to show how they are comply-ing with U.N. resolutions. The cameras placed in the Al Qaqah ballisnes site about mer Yugoslavia, the Iraqi Military Industrialisation Commission revealed. It was partially destroyed by bomb-40 kilometres south of Baghing during the 1991 Gulf war, dad are directly linked to the when Iraq was ousted from U.N.'s permanent monitor-Nuwait. One camera mounted on a ing centre, operating round-

ISRAEL'S VICTIMS: A Lebanese mother, flanked

by her daughter (right) mourns her son who was

killed Wednesday with six other civilians by Israeli

wall was surveying an Italianbuilt machine manufacturing solid fuel needed for rocket propulsion.
"The camera registers the

slightest movement in the room," said Hussam Mohammad Amin, responsible for The aim is to ensure that coordinating between Iraq the factory is in line with and the United Nations.

**NEWS IN BRIEF** 

tag stamped with a serial number to ensure that it could not be tampered with,

U.N. cameras keep constant watch at Iraqi factory

shelling over Nabatiyeh, in South Lebanon, during

their funerals on Thursday in Nabatiyeh (AFP photo)

moved or replaced. In another building, stands used for testing missile en-gines were watched by infrared cameras which turned as they detected a heat source when the machines were switched on.

The same warning was given at the entrance to the building.

"Forbidden to touch the cameras, to cut the electricity, to switch off the light, to obscure the field of vision." "In all 58 cameras have been installed in 12 sites, and the first became operational

Amin said But he added they were not the only means of con-

in September 1993." Mr.

Four or five times a week U.N. inspectors make surprise visits, overflying in helicopters to take photos, and

taking water, air and earth

samples to analyse them.

The U.N. committee responsible for disarming Iraq monitors a total of 183 sites, 75 used for biological weapons, 35 ballistics, 50 chemical and 23 nuclear, now that the first phase of the destruction of Iraqi banned arms is complete.

Mr. Amin added that a total of 80 staff from the commission, known as UN-SCOM, most of them inspectors in the areas of ballistic, based in Baghdad to supervise the system.

Iraq has argued that crippling sanctions imposed on the country four years ago should be lifted because it has complied with the U.N. resolutions on arms control.

But after an Iraqi troops build-up on the border with Kuwait two weeks ago, Washington has led repeated calls that Baghdad must also agree to recognise the emirate's sovereignty and border and comply with all other U.N. resolutions stemming from the Gulf war.

## Kuwait says efforts boosted to stop maid abuse KUWAIT (R) - Kuwait, employers.

trying to stamp out abuse of domestic servants from the Philippines, has launched a study on maids who flee their

"Something really has to be done to solve this most pressing problem," Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Ahma Al Kulaib told reporters on Tuesday.

Mr. Kulaid is due to hold talks with visiting Philippine Labour Secretary Nieves Confesor on Thursday to improve procedures for solving labour disputes involving Fili-

The ministry on Tuesday began interviewing 277 Filipinas who have run away from employers and are living in their embassy's overseas workers welfare administration building.

"We want to know the prevailing problem so we can find a way to minimise if not settle the problem once and for all," said Mr. Kulaid after attending some of the inter-

There are 46,000 Philippine expatriates in the counry, most of them working as labourers, clerks or domestic

They form part of a one million-strong army of expatriate manpower that performs manual and middlemanagement tasks for the 650,000 Kuwaitis.

About 1,210 Filipina domestic helpers sought refuge at the embassy between January and October this year. Of these, 640 eventually found other jobs in the emirate and about 290 were repatriated using funds from Philippine community

Embassy figures show most of the maids allege verbal abuse or non-payment. A minority of cases alleged rape

Prime Minister Sheikb Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah last year paid for the repatriation of hundreds of maids who had been living at the embassy refuge.

Kuwaitis claim most of the allegations are fabricated or exaggerated by maids to get out of contracts or to go home because of loneliness or inability to cope with the

But diplomats and .some Kuwaitis say much of the problem is an illegal trade in visas conducted both in Manila and around the Guif that is fuelled by strong demand for cheap labour and has flooded Kuwait with unskilied and unwanted workers.

They also say wide-ranging labour reforms are necessary. the ministry is studying introduction of a minimum wage and standardising requirements for the housing and welfare of expatriate labour. Last month it arrested 250 people for pro-

viding illegal work permits. Asians often pay large sums before they ever step on the plane to the Gulf for the opportunity to obtain a job in the oil-rich region. Domestics and cleaners are sometimes paid as little as 30 dinars (\$100) a month.

Newspapers quoted Mr. Kulaid as saying he knew of some cases where agents demanded three to six month advance salaries from the employers under the pretext of handing it over to the maids. In most cases the sums

were not passed on to the maids, he said.

HUAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

icus 5:00 p.m. every Monday icus 7:30 a.m. every Sunday

720/ 500

## Khartoum defends 'brutal' razing of squatter camps

KHARTOUM (R) - Sudan, orientation." angered by U.S. charges of of a large utban squatter settlement, has defended its actions and accused Washington of stepping up a "hostile campaign" against Khartoum.

Sudan's Foreign Ministry said in a statement published in newspapers on Friday the demolition of settlements in the Khuddeir area of Omdurman, twin city of the capital Khartoum was "normal, legal and usually takes place worl-

A number of people were reported killed in clashes with troops when bulldozers first rumbled in last Saturday to start the demolition of an area where some people say they have been living for over

20 years. The United States described the incident as "unjustifiable" and "a clear abuse of force by the government of Sudan.

"The incident underscores the brutality and callousness of the policy of forcible resettlement of squatters in the Khartoum area which has been proceeding for years,"

Sudan's Foreign Ministry "expressed sorrow over the United States' exploitation of the incident in order to escalate the hostile campaign against Sudan's civilisational Shielded from angry squat-ters by a ring of soldiers, the bulldozers have been razing acres of mud-walled bouses in the Nile-side neighbourhood all week after the government decided it should be rebuilt as a prime residential

A few determined squatters, sitting under makeshift shelters, and guarding their few possessions, have shunned the government lorries' carrying people off to camps miles outside the city where they have little chance of finding work.

"I came bere with my family in 1976. The government told us we would be allowed to live in the city but now they have destroyed our home and tried to force us out to a camp," said 46-yearold Abbas

He told Reuters he and a few other squatters would not move from the rubble of their former homes until Sudan's National Council ruled on a complaint they had raised

against the forced relocation. The squatters say hundreds of troops cordoned off the area before dawn last Saturday before the buildozers moved in. A few dozen men, women and children gathered to protest the destruction of their houses. When they started throwing stones at the bulldozers the army opened

A number of squatters said the clash. They said a dozen people, including women were injured and about 100 were arrested.

Western diplomats said they heard reports that between four and 16 people

"The concerned authorities were only removing illegal houses within an action preceded by legal measures," the ministry said in the first public acknowledgement of the incident.

"Despite these measures, a number of citizens committed some acts of riot which the police managed to control. it added, without mentioning casualties. Khartoum residents say 13

people were killed in a similar clash one year ago.

Authorities in Khartoum and Omdurman, where wave after wave of people fleeing drought and war elsewhere in Sudan have settled, are pursuing a vision of radical urban

restructuring. Hassan Al Tourabi, regarded as the power behind Sudan's military Islamic government, described the reconstruction plans this week as "the best thing which has happened to Khartoum."

The projects often involve forced resettlement of squat-

## Prosecutor wants Lebanon deputy pursued

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's prosecutor-general demanded on Thursday that authorities lift a deputy's parliamentary immunity so he can be prosecuted for drugs dealing. Prosecutor Munif Queidat submitted an official request to Justice Minister Bahij Tabbara saying there was evidence linking Yahya Sbamas, a deputy representing a constituency in eastern Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, to drugs dealing. The interrogation of some narcotics dealers "Revealed acts and evidence that necessitates pursuing Deputy Yahya Shamas with the crime of drug dealing," said Mr. Oueidat's request, which was published in the official National News Agency. It was the first such request in Lebanon's history. A parliamentary vote is necessary to lift the immunity of any deputy. If convicted, the Shiite Muslim deputy faces up to seven years in jail. Before the recent eradication of its durgs crops, the Bekaa Valley was a haven for the illegal trade in drugs during Lebanon's 1975-90 civil war.

### Algerian wins Francophone writing award

PARIS (AP) - Algerian poet and novelist Mohammad Dib on Thursday won the Francophone Grand Prix, the highest literary award bestowed by the Academie Francaise. Mr. Dib was born in Tlemcen, Algeria and has lived in France since 1959. He has written more than 20 works, the best known of which is his "Algeria" trilogy of "La Grande Maison" (The Big House) of 1952, "L' Incendie" (the fire) of 1954 and "Le Metier a Tisser" (The Loom) of 1957. His most recent work is "Le Desert Sans Detour' (Desert Without Detour) of 1992. It marks the first time a North African has won the Academie's grand prix, bestowed on writers who produce works in French.

### Syria sacks officials for taking bribes

DAMASCUS (AP) - Labour authorities have dismissed scores of government employees, some of them highranking officials. Wednesday on charges of bribery and misusing their powers, the official Syrian Arab News Agency reported. It said the state-run central body for

**JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR** 

AMMAN:

Establishment for Foodstuffs and a regional director of the "Commercial Bank of Syria. Most of the dismissed officials worked in state banks, food establishments, the state electricity company, the General Organisation of Internal Trade, the General Establishment of Tobacco and the General Company for Building Materials. The dismissals came amid moves by the Syrian government to liberalise the economy after decades of tight central control and attract large-scale foreign investment. Investment law 10. passed in May 1991, has encouraged Syrian and Arab investors to set up thousands of new projects worth an estimated \$3.8 billion, according to trade officials. This has widened the potential for graft and the government appears to be purging the massive bureaucracy to head off problems with potential investors.

dismissals beyond citing "bribery and misconduct." But the

list of sacked officials reported by SANA included senior

officials such as a departmental director at the General

### Ministers urge fight against fundamentalism

RABAT (AFP) - Ministers for Islamic affairs from 41 Muslim countries urged late Thursday that fundamentalist tendencies be resisted, notably by promoting a gentler Islamic culture as a counterweight. After two days of talks here, the ministers came out unanimously against religious fanaticism, which they said was infiltrating youth, as well as Muslim minorities in other countries. To counter it, one of their numerous resolutions called for the spread of Islamic culture and the teaching of "the true precepts" of an Islam that was "tolerant and fair." The ministers also urged states to fight against illiteracy and to expand knowledge of Arabic and of the Koran. Saying that Islam's heritage must be preserved, the conference deplored the destruction of mosques in India and Bosnia-Herzegovina and called for an end to attacks against Muslims in those countries. At the end of the meeting Syria's Religious Affairs Minister Abdul Majid Tarabulsi voiced strong hopes that the resolutions would be implemented, saying that those of previous such conferences had remained a dead letter.

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..... Un Pour Tous Les Six Compagnon Grands Galors ... World Echo .... News in Arabit ...... Bob . Murder she Wrote 21:19 .... Feature film: "Rocket

### PRAYER WRIES

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### Tel. 811295

WEATHER Bullatin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Relative warm warm conditions will prevail with clouds appearing in different altitudes and winds southeasterly light. In Aquha. winds will be northerly moderate

Jordan Valley ...... 33 / 36 Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 28. Aqaba 33 Humidity readings: Amman 32 per cont. Agaba 37 per cent.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY**

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### **EMERGENÇIES**

Civil Defence Department 661111 Civil Defence Immediate

Food Control Centre ....

Rescue 630341
Crvil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 617101
Blood Bank 775121 Highway Police Traffic Police ... 896390 Pablic Security Department ... Hosel Complaints Price Complaints Water and Sewerage 605800 897467 Amman Municipality Complaints
Telephone Information Repairs 615101 Abdall Telephone Repairs 661263 

RJ Flight Information .... 08-53200

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Electric Power

### HOSPITALS

Hussein Meencan Com. Khalidi Maternily, J. Amn 644281/6 Akileh Maternity, J. Amn. 642441/2 Jabal Amman Maternity .... 642362 Shmeisani Hospital .... University Hospital .... Al-Murasher Hospital .... The Islamic, Abdati .... . 845845 . 666127/37 Al-Anti, Abdeli Italian, Al-Muhajreen Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich 775111/26 Army, Marka 891611/15 Ouern Alia Hospital 602240/50 Amal Moenical Amal Hospital ...... 674155 ZAROA: Zarqa Govi. Hospital 109)983323 Zarqa National Hospital (09)900560 15g Sina Hospital ...... (09)986732 Al Ibkma Modern Hospital (09)990990

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### FOR THE TRAVELLER **QUEEN ALIA**

INTERNATIONAL

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ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1) ...... Agaba (RJ) ...... Dhakran (RJ) ... Karachi, Dubai (RJ) ...... Colombo (RJ) New York, Amsterdam (RJ) ..... London, Berlin (RJ) ...... Vicana (add) (RJ)

### Other Flights (Terminal 2) 64:29 ...... Vicnna (OS)

11:39 Amsterdam. New York (RJ) .... Paris (RJ) ... Geneva, Brussels (RJ) ..... Paris (add] (RJ) 13:30 19:45 Madrid (RJ) in Dobs (RJ) 20:30 21:30 Abu Dhabi Dubai (RJ) Damascus, Larriaca (RJ) Other Flights (Terminal 2)

**DEPARTURES** 

(Terminal 1)

t9:15

Royal Jordanian (RJ)

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... Dubui (EK) .... Sanaa (IY) .... Cairo (MS)

Being (RI)

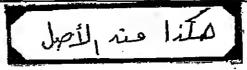
Frankfurt (add) (RJ

## Beirut (ME) Vienna (OS) Dubai (EK)

## **MARKET PRICES** Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

300/200 300/ 200 280/ 180 t80 / t00 Grapes (Hilwani)

Lemon
Marrow (large)
Marrow (small)
Olive (green) 150 / 80 340 / 220 380/ 300 420/ 300 Onion (green) .... Onion (dry) .... Pepper (hot) .... 360 / 240 300 / 200 280/ t60 . 750/ 450



Princess Basma Hespital Greek Catholic Hospital Ibn Al Nafoes Hospital



Queen Noor Thursday evening attends a rera presented Queen Noor with a Span-

THE CULTURE OF SPAIN: Her Majesty Ambassador to Jordan Juan Manuel Cabdinner and show in patronising the events ish sword dating back to the 11th century of Spanish Cultural Week, which in- and Spanish Friendship and Peace Medal. cluded musical performances, flamenco Attending the activities, which were dances and mime shows. Queen Noor staged at the Forte Grand Hotel, were toured the Spanish heritage exhibition, Prince Ali Ben Nayef, Princess Wijdan Ali which includes a display of gold and black and the director of the Spanish Cultural Toledo handcrafted jewellery. Spanish Centre (Petra photo)

## NGO advocates of children's rights decide to form comprehensive network

**By Martina Sabra** Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In a bid to improve and strengthen communication and cooperation for the sake of Jordanian children and their rights as pnt down in the U.N. Convention on the Rights of the Child, Thursday, more than 30 Jordanian nongovernment organisations (NGOs) active on behalf of children decided to establish

national network. More than 160 participants, among them several children and youth, entrusted a 15-head-preparatory committee to work out a proposal concerning the organisational structure of the network and to convocate a founding assembly within the next

"In both developing and Members of the preparaindustrialised countries, chiltory committee represent big and small Jordanian NGOs, dren cope daily with street among them Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF), sexual exploitation and stressing the damaging effects of widespread child labour. "For the sake of both individual and global develop-ment, we need to understand the concept of (children's) rights," Mrs. Rialp said.

The panelists, among them former Minister of Information and current Upper House Member Leila Sharaf, Emad Amr of Jordan's branch of Amnesty International, and lawyer and human rights activist Asma Khader, mentioned the progress that Jordan has made in the last decades to improve children's hife conditions, particularly in the field of education.

Nevertheless, all speakers regretted the absence of valnable statistics and serious field research, as well as the inexistence of a broad social debate about children's problems and their rights in Jor-

"We need to talk openly about violence at home, said Dr. Sima Bahous, information communication officer at UNICEF in Amman, "and we must raise awareness of children's rights on all levels, by using the media, providing training courses and elaborating human-rights-related curricu-

Mrs. Sbaraf underlined the importance of NGOs to the promotion of children's rights, given that "NGOs have a better access to the basis of society than official institutions and... due to voluntary work, can provide social services which the state may not be able to give."
The International Conven-

tion on the Rights of the Child was adopted by the U.N. General Assembly in 1989. So far, 153 countries have ratified the convention which set basic standards concerning the right of the child to survival, developchild to survival, development, protection and parti-cipation and which hinds its signatories legally to comply with its provisions.

Jordan ratified the convention in 1991 and submitted its initial report to the U.N. Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in April this

Mrs. Khader called the report a positive step forward, but criticised it as partly inappropriate.

"It should have been elaborated by experts instead of the Foreign Ministry, and discussed on a wider societal

basis before being submit-ted," Mrs. Khader said.

Though having ratified the convention, and in spite of recommendations to Jordan issued by the CRC, Jorbasic children's rights fixed by the convention, e.g. the right to adoption and the right to religious freedom," she told the Jordan Times.

Mrs. Khader suggested the next CRC report on children in Jordan, due in 1999, be coordinated by a nongovernmental body.

### Majali urges conversion of **CSCC** into non-profit, government-owned company

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Thursday called for converting the Civil Servants Consumer Corporation (CSCC) into a non-profit government-owned comany, collecting a minimal profit to cover its administra-

tive and operational costs. The Prime Minister's call was made during a visit to the CSCC where he was received by Supply Minister Adel Qudah and the corporation's Director General Abdul

Hadi Mahayri. The CSCC bas market outlets in all the major cities of the country providing basic commodities, food stuffs and appliances at discounted prices to civil servants and their families.

government-owned company will give it flexibility to purchase goods from international markets at reasonable prices and will free it from bureaucratic procedures.

The prime minister stressed the need to open new CSCC branches in various towns and villages

Dr. Majali called on the corporation to either sell or re-export the goods in stock, whose expiry date is drawing close instead of keeping them stockpiled, and in the end being forced to destroy them.

Mr. Qudah, who is also chairman of the Board of Directors of the CSCC, said the corporation employs 800 people and has a capital of JD 40 million. The corporation enjoys yearly exemp-Dr. Majali said that contions from customs duties tot.

He said the committee also alling JD 6.5 million, be said.

## Governor urges amendment to law Mayors should be held accountable for abuse of authority - Fayez Abbadi

ties Laws in order that mayors will be held accountable for abuse of authority.

Mr. Abbadi, who is also head of a committee appointed by the government to run the affairs of the Irbid municipality until general municipal elections take place in June next year, said his committee had discovered serious violations of laws and regulations, especially in the issuing of building licenses in areas not assigned for any construction activity:

IRBID (J.T.) — Irbid Governor Fayez Abbadi in an interview with Al Ufuq weekly, demanded the government amend the Municipalities. I away in order that found that the council had shirked its responsibility in collecting dues from land and home-owners, said Mr.

> Another violation, he said, is the illegal appointment of persons whose services had been terminated by an order of the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs or the Audit Purson. dit Bureau.

The governmentappointed committee running the municipality now has found that 83 such employees; some of whom are over the mandatory retirement age of 60, have been re-appointed after they had received their compensation from the Social Security Cor-poration (SSC), added Mr. Ahbadi

Development (QAF), the General Federation of Jorda-

nian Women (GFJW),

Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), the Al

Hussein Society for the Re-habilitation of the Handicap-

ped, the Parents of Hand-

icapped Children as well as

the Arab Organisation for

Human Rights (AOHR) and the Jordanian branch of

Amnesty International.

The NGOs, under the umbrella of the United Na-

tions Children's Fund (UN-

ICEF) area office in Amman, came together at the Hotel Inter.Continental in Amman.

In her opening address, UN-

ICEF representative Victoria Rialp said that worldwide,

children are denied the rights

that would enable them to

survive, develop fully and

participate actively.

As such, he said these appointments are illegal and furthermore there were no vacancies at the time of these staff reappointments and therefore the committee has decided to lay off some of those illegally appointed

workers. Mr. Abbadi said that 70 per cent of the municipal council's budget is spent on workers wages adding that by laying off employees the committee is expected to save funds for the municipality's

## Ministry, UNESCO to hold vocational training seminar

Teachers' extra allowance to be implemented next year — Rawabdeh

announced that in cooperation with the United Nations . Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UN-ESCO), it will conduct a seminar which will among other things focus on ways to encourage Arab women to take up vocational and technical training.

Developing vocational training programmes in Arab states and training young men and women in the trades, most needed in Arab labour markets will also be taken up by the delegates, who represent Jordan and 10 other

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Education Friday some foreign states,

Managed Managed

The five-day meeting, which is being held at the Jerusalem Hotel here, will also focus on cooperation among Arab states in vocational training programmes.
The Ministry of Education

has prepared a programme for the participating delega-tion to visit vocational training centres in Jordan, accordmg to the statement. It also said that Education Minister Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh was scheduled to open the meetings which were paved for at a meeting of experts in

Meanwhile, Mr. Rawabdeh was quoted Friday as saying that His Majesty King Hussein's directives to the government to give teachers an extra professional allowance would only be implemented next year.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the minister said that such a measure requires a change in the present regulations and allocation of additional funds, which can only take place in the 1995 fiscal budget for at a meeting of experts in which goes into effect in vocational training in January 1995.

## Variations on movement and immobility Rafi Nasiri exhibits at French Cultural Centre



Acrylic on paper by Rafi Nasiri

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Inner landscapes? Maybe. Certainly, and first of all, light. Then colours: blue, brown, grey. Masses moving and melting into each other, interrupted by a red or turquoise callig-raphic sign here and there (a combination of the Arabic letter waw and the cipher 9, says the artist). Finally, surfaces: acrylic on paper, acrylic on Chinese rice paper, acrylic on canvas.

Rafi Nasiri's most recent "works on paper," 24 of which are currently exhibited at the French Cultural Centre, are beautiful essays on the very nature of creativity - an attempt to visualise that fragile turning point between contemplation and action. where a new idea, a new expression gains its shape.

"... Nasiri paints inner landscapes that demand to be visited," says French art critic N. Favreliere.

And, alluding to the fact that nature has long been Mr. Nasiri's central subject of interest, Iraqi poet and art critic May Muzaffar writes in her essay special to the ex-hibition: "The duality of sky

By Martina Sabra and earth is here transformed modern art. into a duality of movement and immobility. Most of the exhibits are

painted on Chinese paper, which, as Mr. Nasiri puts it, poses a particular artistic challenge because of its structure: "You have to work very quickly, otherwise you'll be lost. Sometimes I feel the paper is working with me and not vice-versa," he explains. "It is a very spiritual mo-ment." Mr. Nasiri, according to his own words, combines modern abstract painting with elements of Arabic calligraphy, thus trying to find an artistic expression that is both universal and Arab at

the same time. His interest in calligraphy dates back to his early years when he studied graphics in Beijing.
"China influenced me a

lot," he says. "art for them (the Chinese) is a life. The function of art is to enjoy

Born in Baghdad in 1940, Mr. Nasiri studied painting and graphic design in Beijing and Lisbon as well as in Baghdad. In 1969, he joined an Iraqi

group of artists called "The New Vision," which tried to develop an authentic Arab

Mr. Nasiri worked as a lecturer at the University of Baghdad Faculty of Fine Arts until 1989, when he established his own worksbop. He

left Iraq in 1991. Today, Mr. Nasiri is one of the few existing graphic artists in the Arab World. Through numerous one-man shows and collective exhibitions all over Europe and in almost all Arab countries, he has gained wide international reputation.

Besides painting and teaching, Mr. Nasiri has illustrated books, designed posters and done the layout for a cultural magazine.

Since he arrived in Jordan three years ago, Mr. Nasiri has embarked on various projects aiming to promote fine arts in the country. In October 1993, together with the National Gallery of Fine Art and the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation, he established a training centre for professional and amateur artists at Darat Al Funun.

Currently, Mr. Nasiri works as a full-time lecturer at the Faculty of Fine Arts and Education at Yarmouk University, where in 1995 a proper faculty of fine arts is planned.

# Under the Patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor Yllana "



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## WHAT'S GOING ON

### SPANISH CULTURAL WEEK

- "Ciudad de Sevilla" flamenco show at the Palace of Culture, King Husseln Sports & Exhibition of paintings of Iraql artist Jab-City at 7:30 p.m.
- Gourmet dinner with "Yllana" Comical Amman at 9:30 p.m. (all proceeds to go to benefit Noor Al Hussein Foundation)

### ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL

- Film in Italian (with English subtitles) entitled "Porte Aperte" (Open Doors) at the Royal Cultural Centre at 5:00 p.m. entitled "Morte Di Un Matematico Napoletano" (Death of a Neapolitan Mathematician) at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m. (all proceeds to go to the
  - **EXHIBITIONS**
- ☆ Two exhibitions: "Paintings by Italian

benefit of the Occupational Therapy Col-

- painter Armando Appaja, and a special exhibition of "Polluted City the Monuments" at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- bar Meibel at Alia Art Gallery. Mime Group shown at Forte Grand Hotel \* Bani Hamida exhibition of "Nomadic Inspirations" — show of reflections of original bedonin designs (including a collection of
  - headwoven rugs, runners, and custions) at Darat Al Funun. Art exhibition by Ahmad Subaih at Balad-
  - na Art Gallery Exhibition of art by Sanaa' Hindi entitled
- 'Leaves'' at Orfali Art Gallery. Film in Italian (with English subtitles) \* Exhibition entitled "Spanish Modern Engraving and Multiplied Sculpture" at the Jordan National Gallery.
  - ☆ The First Computer Art Exhibition in the Arab World at Ain Art Gallery.
  - ★ Exhibition by several Iraqi artists at Phoenix Gallery for Culture and Art. Exhibition of abstract art by Rafi' Nasiri at the French Cultural Centre.



**JORDAN PHOSPHATE MINES CO LTD** 

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JPMC announces the invitation to bid No. 30F/94 for the supply, supervision of erection and commissioning of (3) units hydraulic backhoe shovels for Eshidiya Mines. The bid is financed by Islamic Development Bank

(IDB)-Jeddah. The bidding documents are available at JPMC offices in Amman, Supply Department, until 2:00 p.m. local time Thursday 10th November 1994,

application for documents should be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of J.D. (175,-) for each set of bidding documents. The closing date for submitting bids is 12:00 hours local time. Tuesday 29th Nov. 1994.

Sameh Madani Managing Director

مآزا منه الأحل

Siy' takes on

Suharto over nine holes

JAKARA (R) — Tough gay actor Sylvestor Statione

swapped his screen weapony for golf clubs and took on

Indonesia's President Suhar-

to over nine holes Friday morning. Executives travell-ing with Stallone, who is to

open a Planet Hollywood

Restaurant in Jakarta, said

he and Mr. Suharto played a "frinedly" match without keeping score. Statione and the 73-year-old Suharto, who

has ruled Indonesia since the

late 1960s and plays golf reg-

niarly, chatted througout the

game. Stallone presented Mr.

Suharto with a Planet Holly-

wood Jakarta opening jacket

after the match. The lakara

ontlet of Planet Hollywood, a

restaurant chain owned by a

host of U.S. film stars that

meludes Stalloue, Arnold

Scwarzenegger, Bruce Willis and Demi Moore, will be the

16th overall and the first in

phone operator

## Haiti moves toward normalcy

PORT-AU-PRINCE (AP) up before dawn Thursday in People are lining up for gasoline here in the capital and for jobs up north in Cap-Haitien as Haiti takes its first wohhly steps toward be-coming a normal society.

But newly returned President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. almost a week after being returned to his homeland from exile on U.S. wings, still hasn't made a decision on his prime minister.

An unruly line of about 15 vehicles brought traffic to a standstill Thursday afternoon after the first legally available gasoline was delivered to a service station at a downtown

The gas was selling for \$3 a gallon (3.8 litres) under government price controls, a stark contrast to the high of more than \$35 under the international trade embargo lifted Sunday.

Many motorists, accustomed to boarding any goods available during the loug embargo, brought plastic containers to fill in addition to their automobile tanks.

At the area known as Kuwait City, where black-market sellers hawked gasoliue for mouths, pouring some smuggled in from the Dominican Republic from plastic bottles into car tanks. only a few gallons (litres) remained for sale. A work crew shovelled trash into a

Princess Diana

briefly in

New York

her posh hotel here.

old boy.

goes public

NEW YORK (Agencies) -

For one hrief moment, New

Yorkers got a glimpse of Princess Diana as photo-graphers and fans staked out

Princess Diana popped out

into the crowd, pausing long

enough to accept a bouquet

of pink roses from a 10-year-

"Thanks a lot," said Prin-

cess Diana as she accepted the flowers. The princess theu headed off for Washing-

ton where she was to spend

the weekend with the Brazi-

basically, to get away from the voracious Fleet Street rat

pack, who's been following

this incredible soap opera

saga of the unhappy wives of Windsor," said Ricbard Mineards, of the London

The princess is embroiled

in the latest dispute to rock

the royals: Reports and

rumours that she and her

hushand, Prince Charles, will

soon turn their separation

Britain is also stirring with

the publication of an autho-

rised hiography of her hus-

band in which it is reported

the he never loved her and

that his father forced him to

Princess Diana, who ar-

rived in the United States for

a private visit Wednesday, will spend a few days on the

Some 120 reporters and

fans of Princess Diana staked

out ber upper east side hotel

all day for that single glimp-

"Is there anything more radiant?" said Sarah Farrell.

a London wedding gown de-signer who waited five hours

for her first close look at the

princess. "So stunning, and

"What's the matter with

Until her brief appearance.

the day's only excitement

came when actor Robin Wil-

liams, in New York for a

political fund-raiser, ducked out of the hotel Thursday.

pictures, camera crews gave chase, and reporters fired

questions at the star of the

cess?" one person shouled.
"No," said Williams.

The follow-up: "Was she on your floor?"

Williams: "Not that I

"Did you see the prin-

movie Mrs. Doubtfire.

End of excitement.

Photographers snapped

smiling as always.

charles?"

noticed."

Daily Express.

into a divorce.

marry her.

East Coast.

"She's fled to America,

lian ambassador's family.

Diana

the north-coastal city of Cap-Haitien, Haiti's secondlargest city, to vie for 30 unskilled jobs for a U.S. engineering company beginning rehabilitation work under in-

ternational aid programmes. Even the judicial system started showing signs of func-tion, as two dozen alleged looters were hrought to court Thursday by Haitian police, backed by U.S. troops. The suspects were held in connec-tion with the plundering and burning of an appliance store

Sunday night.
The U.S. military has encouraged Haitian police to resume patrolling and crime fighting, despite the people's bostility because of the oppressive role that police played in the old military

regime.
In Cap-Haitieu, interna-tional monitors this week began training Haitians recruited in the U.S. Navy base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to be part of an interim police force. Some Haitian police who worked under the old regime who the U.S. army cleared were also heing

Across the street from the National Palace, in front of an army harracks largely avoided before the coup leaders who toppled Mr. Aristide in 1991 packed up and left minister.
Inside the white-columned embargoes.

building, Mr. Aristide con-sulted with allies and opposition parties alike on the makeup of a revamped government expected to be announced shortly.

The front-runner to be prime minister in the new cabinet was Clandette Wer-leigh, Mr. Aristide's foreign minister, a source close to the government said. She would replace interim Prime Minister Robert Malval.

Such consultations are new for Mr. Aristide, who during his seven months as president antagonised many Haitian politicians by confining appointments to bis own close-knit group of supporters, many of them inexperi-

Mr. Werleigh, 48, was so-cial affairs minister during a brief civilian caretaker gov-ernment that preceded Mr. Aristide's administration.

The proposal for U.S. trade preferences for Haiti is included in Mr. Aristide's plan for emergency economic recovery. With his return, Haiti will enjoy the same lower U.S. tariffs as most Caribbean nations under the decade-old Caribbean Basin

But Mr. Aristide's advisers say that's not enough to revive the export sector of an economy that nearly ground to a half under the three-year

military regime and stifling

The Aristide government wants the United States 10 completely lift tariffs on all imports from Haiti and eliminate some import quotas.

However, a source close to the president, speaking on condition of anouymity, acknowledged that total eliminanon of import restrictions is only a starting point for bar-

There will be no speedup in the way U.S. troops in Haiti have been taking weapons from paramilitary forces, the admiral in charge of the mission said Thursday.

"To disarm a country such as Haiti is a pretty tough assignment," Adm. Paul D. Miller told reporters at a Pentagon briefing.

"The pace of our activity is correct. I don't have any plans to enbance the efforts that are ougoing," the admir-al said, adding at another point, "the weapons control ssue bas been quite success-

Adm. Miller bad beeu asked about published remarks from an uunamed senior official of the United Nations who said Haitian paramilitary forces have not been stripped of their weapons quickly enough.

U.S. troops have been in control in Haiti since mid-September, hut random violence continues.

Weary

Texans

## U.K. press calls for drastic surgery on government sleaze

policeman (centre) and international police arraignment (AFP photo)

LONDON (AFP) — Be-leaguered Prime Minister John Major must perform "serions surgery" ou his diseased Tory government, the British press urged Friday, as a "cash-for-questions" storm continued to dominate the

Some forty Haitians arrested by the U.S.

military for various crime like looting, sit in a

truck under the supervision of a Haitian

Junior Northern Ireland Minister Tim Smith resigned Thursday after be admitted be received money from Mohammad Al Fayed, the chairman of Harrods store, in return for tabling parliamentary questions.

Pressure continued to mount for Corporate Affairs Minister Neil Hamilton, also accused of accepting cash, to resign. Mr. Hamilton flatly denied the allegations, and Thursday issued a writ against the Guardian which had broken the story in that day's editiou.

Friday's Guardian detailed the alleged extravagance of Mr. Hamilton and his wife at the Ritz Hotel in Paris, where he was said to have run up a £4,221 (\$6,331) bill for a sixmight stay in September 1987 understood to have been paid for by Mr. Fayed, owner

In editorial comment, the ceutre-left paper charged: There is distrust and a feeling of decay. It has to be dealt with in the open."

And it urged: "Let the sloppy mess of nonregulation surrounding parliamentary lobbying activities at last be tightened. Let the government give a lead... Such sickness demands serious surgery."

An editorial in the centre-

right Independent concluded: Because he is widely thought to be weak and anxious to be liked, Mr. Major needs to be especially brutal m fulfilling his stated aim of rooting out wrong-doing."

Friday's conservative Telegraph acknowledged: "The government seems to be at a loss to know how to contend with the outhreak of 'sleaze'.

The Times, also progovernment, added to pressure for Mr. Hamilton's resignation. "If Mr. Hamilton is to coutest these allegations successfully, it were better that he try to do so from a

ary, un the backbenches," it said.

observer outside the military detention centre

in Port-An-Prince, Haiti. The Haitians were

being moved to court for their pre-trial

The paper also said: "The rules governing payment to MPs, in particular, are outdated and should be amended to suit the modern parliamentary culture of lobbyists and consultancy fees... An independent inquiry is needed to mark fresh boundaries for today's politicians."

Lobbyist Ian Greer also issued a writ against the Guardian Thursday, but the paper in its front-page story
Friday again quoted Mr.
Fayed as saying Mr. Greer
had promised to deliver the

They would ask questions in parliament linked to a government probe into the 1985 takeover of Harrods by the Fayed brothers in a bitter battle with Tiny Rowland's Longho.

Mr. Fayed was quoted as saying: "Every month we got a bill for parliamentary services and it would vary between £8,000 (\$12,000) and £10,000 (\$15,000), depending on the number of questions.

South East Asia. Gamabian coup leaders marries

> BANJUL (R) - Gambia's youthful coup leader Lieutenant Yahya Jammeh bas married a 22-year-old telephone operator in a quiet ceremony in the bride's home town of Birkama, officials said Wednesday. They said Lt. Jammeh, 29, married Tmi Faal, who works for the state telecommunications company Gamtel, on Oct. 10. On July 22, Lt. Jammeh toppled Sir Dawda Jawara, who had led the tiny West African hobday paradise since independennce in 1965, saying he wanted to put an end to government corruption and the trade in drugs and sex.

### Pop star collapses in firework blast

PETERBOROUGH. England (AFP) - Veteran pop singer Alvin Stardust col-lapsed on stage in front of horrified fans when he apparently went too close to fireworks at a concert in Peterborough, his agent said. He was just starting his last pumber, My Coo-Ca-Choo, when the pyrotechnics went off as part of the act, but he seemed to take the full hlast," Simou Porter said. Porter added: "He collapsed and lay motionless on the stage. Everybody in the audience thought it was part of the act until the band stopped playing about 30 seconds later." St. John Ahulance volunteers quickly gave him medical treatment and an amhuilance was called to take him to Peterborough General Hospital, where a spokeswoman later described his condition as "comfortable" and said his injuries were not

### China to build world's largest **Buddha statue**

HONG KONG (AFP) -Construction work was begun for the world's largest bronze Buddha statue iu China's eastern coastal province of Jiangsu, it was reported here Friday. The standing robeclad Sakyamunia male figure to be built on the peak of Maji Mountain in Wuxi will be some 80 metres completed tall including a lotus-shaped 20 metre high when com-pleted in 1996, the Hong Kong branch of China News Service said.

### Deneuve named ·UNESCO's film ambassador

PARIS (AFP) - French film actress Catherine Deneuve was named UNESCO's goodwill ambassador for the safeguard of world film beritage Wednesday. UNESCO Director-General Federico Mayor appointed Ms. Deneuve president of a \$100,000 fund to be jointly run hy the U.N. Educational. Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and the International Federation of Film Archives (FIAF). Mayor invited other cinema personalities such as Japan's Najisa Oshima, Mexico's Arturo Ripsteion and Burkina-Faso's Gaston Kabore to back the fund. When the cinema industry celebrates its centenary next year, more than threequarters of pre-1950s films will have disintegrated if restoration work is not undertaken or if copies are not made. UNESCO said at least 10 per cent of the 2.2 billion metres of films kept in film libraries across the world are in urgeut need of restoration.



spy alleges Canada's intelligence agency spied on two ministers in former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's cabinet in 1983, but Lady Thatcher's successor John Major dismissed the allegation as "claptrap."
Mike Frost, a former in-

telligence officer of the topsecret Communications Security Establishment, said in the book Spyworld that the request to spy on the minis-ters came from Britain's government communications headquarters, and was carried out from a Canadian diplomatic mission in Lon-He said the aim was to find

out if both ministers were "on side" with ber policies. Lady Thatcher herself was not immediately available for

But in London Thursday Mr. Major dismissed the report as "claptrap" and told a questioner in parliament: The face that in the middle of your question you could not even keep a straight face shows just how seriously everybody in the House really regards the absolute absurdity of that particular allega-

Spyworld was written by Frost, who worked for the spy agency for 19 years from 1972 to 1990, and by Michel

Grattou, a former press secretary to then Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mul-

Mr. Frost told a news couference Thursday that he did not directly take part in the mission but was hriefed before and after it took place by a colleague in the Canadian security agency.

"I did not do the work myself. The way I wrote it in the book is the way I remember it to the best of my knowledge," Mr. Frost told

Mr. Frost quotes his colleague, whose pseudonyn he gives as Frank Bowman, as saying: "It seems as if Margaret Thatcher thinks two of the ministers in her cabinet are not 'on side...' She wants to find out if they are."

The alleged spying took place in 1983 when Lady Thatcher was nearing the end of her first mandate, and had just shuffled her cabinet. "Bowman flew over and

set up an intercept post right inside Canada's MacDonald House (Canadian diplomatic mission in Londou). The intercept was done during normal business hours, but was extended at both ends, so that the ministers could be caught either on their way to work or on the road back home," Mr. Frost writes in the book.

## U.S., Pakistan discuss obstacles to better ties

WASHINGTON (AP) -U.S. and Pakistani officials sought Thursday to repair relations strained by allegations of Pakistan's purported support of terrorism in Kashmir and efforts to acquire nuclear and other advanced weapons. While "Pakistan is no longer the object of special

attention regarding any sup-port it may be giving to terrorist groups... we have made clear to the government of Pakistan that — if justified by the facts — any country could be named a state supporter of terrorism under U.S. law at any time," the U.S. State Department declared Thurs-

day night.
"We continue to monitor the situation closely," it said in a statement.

Earlier Thursday, the de-partment said Pakistan's No. 2 foreign policy official, Foreign Secretary Najmudin Shaik, met with the U.S. secretary of state and other officials.

The meeting was "part of our mutual effort to hroaden the traditional strong ties which exist hetween Pakistan and the United States," the State Department said.

During the half-hour meet-ing, Warran Christopher voiced concern about Pakistan's acquisition of Chinese M-11 missile technology, department spokeswoman,

Christine Shelly said. Earlier this month, the United States ended a 14-month technology emhargo against China after Beijing promised not to provide Pakistan or other countries parts for missiles able to deliver a 500tonne payload 300 kilometres operations.

(180 miles). China has never acknowledged providing such assistance to Pakistan.

U.S. sanctions imposed against Pakistan in 1993 over the same issue have remained in place, but Pakistan has never admitted it had acquired a potential for landing missiles in cities of neighbouring India, it's rival in three wars.

In a letter Oct. 7, 19 members of Congress urged President Bill Clinton to reconsider listing Pakistan as a state supporter of terrorism. They cited alleged Pakistani support of Muslim guerrillas seeking separation of disputed Kashmir from India,

They also said Pakistan was implicated in the 1993 Bomhay Stock Exchange bombing that killed 317 peo-ple. Pakistan has deuied involvement.

Mr. Christopher's decision last January not to list Pakistan as a sponsor of terrorism was reached after painstaking review of the facts," according to the State Department statement released Thursday night.

A key issue clouding U.S.Pakistani relations is the cutoff of American aid required hy law after the U.S. was not able to certify that Pakistan neither possesses nor is developing atomic

Ms. Shelly stressed examples of cooperation between the two countries, noting that Washington and Islamabad recently "worked very closely together at the Cairo Population Conference, also on some major peacekeeping

## fight fire after floods HOUSTON (AP) - Two

pipelines beneath a rolling river burst, sending 100-foot (30-metre) flames of burning gasoline snaking more than a mile (1.5 kilometres) down the San Jacinto River, at least 69 people were injured.

"It looked like hell opened up on the water and the whole river was gasoline." said Mike Norman, who was on the hank trying to retrieve his sailboat when the explo-

Some 11,500 people were forced from their homes by heavy rain that began Sunday. Skies were clearing, the murky water had begun to recede in most areas, and some people were returning to their damaged homes. when the pipeline broke east of Houston, sending smoke and flame hundreds of feet (metres) into the all flooding has claimed at least 15 lives.

The burning mixture wound 1½ miles (2.5 kilometres) downstream, setting fire to homes and boats along the banks. Schools and businesses in the path of the smoke were evacuated.

"There were three loud booms and then an immediate hlack cloud," witness Doug Trowbridge said. "It just began to spread like

The first explosion, around 10:30 a.m. occurred near "the spaghetti bowl," the mouth of the nation's interstate pipeline network. A second pipeline ruptured around 2 p.m.
U.S. Transportation

Secretary Federico Pena surveyed the scene by belicopter and said the explosion was likely caused by the rain-swollen river.



Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Britain's her stay. Especially in flying to St. Petersburg. Queen Elizabeth II walk past the guard of he went to unusual lengths for his guest on a honour and a Soviet-style flag during a cere-visit seen as both highly symbolic and impormony at the Piskaryov Cemetery, a World tant for British-Russian ties. The queen and War II memorial in St. Petersburg. Ending a her husband spent the last day of their visit visit that evoked memories of Russia's ill-fated touring Russia's old imperial capital before czar, Queen Elizabeth headed home Thursday bidding the city farewell and boarding the after a rare personal sendoff by President royal yacht. Mr. Yeltsin and his wife Naina Yeltsin. Bands played, fireworks exploded, joined them on the Britannia for a final and Mr. Yeltsin and 1,500 ramrod-straight dinner. They visited the former residence and Russian troops stood by in sub-freezing the burial site of Russia's czars; Piskeryos temperatures as the royal yacht Britannia Cemetery; where a million victims of the Nazi pulled away from a Neva River dock. The siege of the city are buried; and Mariinsky colourful departure ceremony capped a suc-cessful but, in all likelihood, trying week for ly Sobchak. The queen also visited the Rethe first British monarch to visit Russia. No search Prosthetic Institute while her husband one was more hospitable than Mr. Yeltsin, went on board a Russian destroyer and visited who escorted the queen throughout much of the Russian Navy Museum (AFP photo)

### Plague panic wanes in India but disease remains fully under control, said Dr. NEW DELHI (R) — Oue gue were in Surat as it could N.K. Sbah of the World

month after plague erupted in India, terror of the disease has ebbed as the number of victims dwindles. But the sickness has not been eradicated and will take time to be brought fully under control. Citizens who fled Surat city

where pneumonic plague broke out in mid-September have largely returned. Most schools which were closed dnring the crisis bave Tourist trade, battered by

mtense global media cover-age of the spread of the disease, is showing signs of recovering. Foreign governments have lifted many of the controls on

travel and trade with India which they had erected. But many countries espe-cially in the Gulf remain wary. Iranian President

Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani cancelled a trip to India because of the sickness, a move Indian newspapers called a serious setback to efforts to improve bilateral relations. Exporters estimate they have lost \$1.3 billion in fore-

What is more, the scourge

bas not been wiped out and

will take time to be brought

ign sales.

Health Organisation (WHO). "It is very difficult to declare India plague-free," be said Friday.
At least 57 people bave died among 693 confirmed to bave bad the plague.

Thousands showed symptoms like fever and cough. Mr. Shah said four or five cases of bubonic plague were still surfacing every day in Maharasbtra state east of Bomhay where that variety of the disease was identified in

early September. Bubonic plague, which attacks a victim's lymph nodes and is spread by fleas who bite infected rodents, is less lethal than pneumonic plague which can destroy a person's lungs and spreads hetween humans through contaminated sputum.

None of the deaths has been attributed to hubonic plague, which like the pneumonic type can be cured with antibiotics.

Cases of bubonic plague

seem to have emerged recently in Surat, where only pneumonic plague had been identified. Mr. Shah said it would not

be surprising if bubonic pla-

indicate the bubonic variety erupted first, then spread to Surat where it evolved into the pneumonic type.

But bubonic plague takes

longer than pneumonic to wipe out as the rodents must be killed. "Bubonic plague will take ahout another month to eradicate," Mr. Shah. "But it is very treatable. It is a very slow, respectable disease.

Mr. Shah said bubonic plague may never be wiped out as it can lurk in rodents in forests. In past years people who spent time in remote woods might have come down with plague without knowing it because common antibodies can quickly wipe it

Ramesh Kansara, a senior Surat administrator, said only 31 patients remained in hospital in his city and no plaguerelated death had been re-ported in four days.

"There is no more panic in

Surat," be said, adding that as many as 400,000 people had returned and others were expected to come back after year-end bolidays.

started production," Mr. Kansara said. All schools ex-

cept at the primary level had reopened, and cinemas were expected soon to open their doors.

Dr. Dinesh Sbah, a resident doctor at Surat Civil Hospital, which treated most of the nation's plague pa-tients, said it had reopened services like surgery which had been closed during the outbreak. "Naturally few patients

will come," be said, "because they will think, 'once upon a time this was the plague hos-

G.S. Dhar, deputy director-general of the Tour-ism Ministry, said airports had noted a rebound in tourist arrivals. There is some damage but

it is very temporary," he said:
"Things will begin picking up
perceptibly in December."
Mr. Ghar said tour operators and government offi-cials were planning a hlitz of Europe to drum up tourists.

There will certainly be a scar in the future," said Anil Bbandari, chairman of the India Tourism Development

Corp.
"But 950 million people
"But is a "Most factories have are back to work. That is a very clear message to peoplethat it is safe.'

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## Major accepts IRA truce; will start talks

BELFAST (R) — British Prime Minister John Major said Friday he was ready to make a "working assump-tion" that an IRA ceasefire was intended to be permaneat and to start talks with its political wing, Sinn Fein, be-fore the end of 1994.

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Mr. Major said that if the IRA continued the truce in its 25-year guerrilla campaign to oust Britain from the Northern Ireland, be would be ready to convene exploratory talks with Sinn Fein about the poblical future of the province "before the year is

In the key speech, which aides said was designed to give the peace process "a big push forward," Mr. Major also announced the end of a banning order preventing Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams and his number two Martin McGuinness from entering mainland Britain.

He also announced the opening of all border crossings with the neighbouring Republic of Ireland and beld open the possibility of talks with Protestant "loyalist" paramilitaries once they bad shown their commitment to

The IRA's ceasefire on Sept. I was answered by a truce by protestant guerrillas on Oct. 14. Mr. Major has said the moves presented the best chance for peace in the province for quarter of a cen-

1 dead in

fighting

Chechenya

MOSCOW (AFP) - One

soldier was killed and two

wounded Friday when troops

opposed to Chechen Presi-

dent Dzhokbar Dudayev

attacked a government posi-

tion northwest of the capital,

Grozny, ITAR-TASS news

The attack took place near the village of Pervomais-

kayoe in response to an

assault overnight by govern-

ment troops on opposition

forces and fighting was con-

report said quoting Chechen

The clashes there came two days after Mr. Dudayev de-

veloped some 2,000 troops backed by 30 armoured vehi-

cles in an offensive against

rebel forces near the village

That battle left more than

military officials.

of Urus-Martan.

Mr. McGuinness said he broadly welcomed Mr. Major's announcement.

"At last a move in the right direction by the British prime minister. I broadly welcome what he has to say but it is quite clear that we must build on all of this ... we must also accept there has to be a fairly rapid demilitarisation of the situation now," Mr. McGuinness told ITN Television

Promising to back the peace process with a big investment drive tapping funds from the European Union, the United States and the Far East, Mr. Major said be would review the need for troops to patrol streets and wanted to return to civilian

policing.
"Walls have been going up have spent when we should have spent the past 25 years breaking them down," be said. "We cannot make up 25 lost years overnight. We shall have to make berculean efforts. That is the purpose of the mitiatives I have announced to-

'The future of Northern Ireland lies in the bands of its own people. If you want peace, say so now ... join the crusade for the future," said Mr. Major who received a standing ovation before he delivered the speech.

But be said peace could not be assured until paramilitar-

ies on both sides handed in their weapons and explo-

Mr. Major ended with an emotional appeal to the people of the province. "Let me speak directly to each and every person in Northern Ireland. If you want peace, say so now. Loudly. Don't sit back. Join the crusade for the

Mr. Major, accompanied by Northern Ireland Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew, arrived in Northern Ireland earlier Friday, a day after his cabinet gave him a free hand "start talks about talks" with Sinn Fein officials whenever be saw fit.

Mr. Major will bold talks with Irish Prime Minister Albert Reynolds Monday. Mr. Reynolds bas been quicker to accept the IRA ceasefire was permanent and Irisb officials have showed impatience at Britain's "softly, softly" approach. Mr. Major's talks with Mr.

Reynolds will focus on progress towards completing a document outlining a framework for inter-party negotiations on the future of Northern Ireland.

Mr. Major said Friday the document would be published when ready so the people of Northern Ireland could have their say.

Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring described Friday as "very significant" Mr. Major's decision to accept the seven-week-old IRA ceasefire as permanent.

Mr. Spring, a key player in the Ulster peace process, praised the decision immediately after Mr. Major

announced it in Belfast. Accepting the truce as permanent was a "very significant and very important step, Mr. Spring said.

Hardline Protestant leader Ian Paisley said Friday he did not believe the IRA ceasefire was permanent and accused Mr. major of not keeping his word to the people of Northern Ireland.

Rev. Paisley said he did not welcome Mr. Major's decision to open talks with Sinn Fein, now that Mr. Major believed the IRA truce was permanent. "He has not kept his word to the people of Northern Ireland... there has been no renunciation of violence by 1RA/Sinn Fein," Rev. Paisley told BBC Tele-

Rev. Paisley, leader of the minority Democratic Unionist Party representing the Protestant majority in Northern Ireland, said Mr. Major had broken the conditions he himself had set down for peace talks to start.

"Do you mean to tell me that the people out there are going to say 'we can trust him on more major issues than that?' Rev. Paisley said,



SEOUL (R) — At least 32 people were killed and 17 injured Friday when a bridge in central Seoul collapsed into the Han River during the morning rush hour. South Korean police said. Horrified commuters

watched as a central span of the four-lane Songsu Bridge plunged into the river, taking with it cars, vans and a fullloaded bus.

Witnesses said there was no warning before a 48-metre (157-foot) central section of the steel-girdered bridge sheared cleanly from the main structure and fell into the Han.

"I don't want to think of this nightmare again. How could a bridge which millions of citizens use every day collapse so easily," said 38-yearold schoolteacher Kim Min-

Ms. Kim, who teaches at an elementary school, was plucked to safety by rescue boats after the car in which she was travelling careered headlong into the void. She said she managed to wrestle her way out of the car and swim to safety.

President Kim Young-Sam demanded a thorough investigation and heavy punishment for those responsible. He called an emergency cabinet meeting after which the government released a statement expressing its deep regret and shock.

A presidential spokesman said Prime Minister Lee Yung-Dug had offered to resgn over the collapse by Mr. Kim turned the offer down. But the resignation of Seoul city Mayor Lee Won-Jong was accepted, the pres-

idential spokesman said. The cabinet meeting decided to award four million won (\$5,000) to each of the victims and more compensation may be given later.

The meening further decided to make urgent checks on bridges all over South-Among the victims in the

us were nine girls from a city bigh school who were heading for school at the time. "I saw a bus plunge headlong into the river after a city bus, a van and two cars section of the bridge in front rested on it, with no sign of of me collapsed," said com-

Rescue workers carry bodies from the wreckcollapsed. The confirmed death toll rose to 32 age of a crowded commuter hus Friday, one of several vehicles which plunged off Songsu Bridge when a 50-metre section of the bridge muter Hong Byung-Tae, who managed to stop his car short

of the yawning gap,
A flotilla of small boats scoured the river but rescues (20 to 30 feet) deep at that were hampered by rain, swirling tides and chaotic traffic. On the wreckage of the collapsed span, rescue workers lined up bodies to be water," he said.

ferried to city mortuaries. The battered section rested on the riverbed with the road surface visible above the water level. The badly-mangled

life from occupants.

broken section (AFP photo) One witness said he thought at least 10 more vehispan was not slated for recles had plunged into the Han, which is six to 10 metres

"I saw ait bubbles coming up from 10 locations which seem to be from cars under-

The Songsu Bridge, opened 15 years ago, is one of 17 across the Han normally

packed with traffic City officials said repairs had been scheduled on the

and was expected to rise further as witnesses said as many as 10 vebicles plunged off the bad weather. The central

> pair, they added. The Songsu was built by one of South Korea's biggest construction firms, Dong Ah Construction Industrial Co. Dog Ah shares plummeted to their daily lower limit on the Seoul Bourse in morning trade.

A Dong Ah official said the bridge had been designed for vehicles no heaviet than 33 tonnes. But the bridge, one of the city's busiest, now bridge Thursday evening but allowed loads of more than had been postponed owing to 43 tonnes.



unidentified soldiers killed after fierce fighting backed by Moscow used helicopters to attack in the breakaway Republic of Chechenya. government positions (AFP photo)

Residents of Urus-Marta look at the bodies of More than 160 people were killed after rebels

leader denied Friday that Mr. Dudayev had gained the up-per hand in the conflict, saying Wednesday's battle "did not change the balance of forces" in the tiny republic in the Caucasus Mountains, TASS said.

160 dead including up to 40 government soldiers, accord-Umar Avturkhanov, leader of the self-styled "pro-visional council" which ing to Chechen officials, and marked the bloodiest clash claims to be the legitimate between Mr. Dudayev's armed supporters and oppogovernment of Chechenya. nents in the past two years. also disputed the casualty figures from Wednesday's A Chechen opposition

fighting announced by official Chechen sources.

He said that more than 100 of Dudayev's troops had been killed and said these included citizens of Russia, Azerbaijan and the Baltic states, the report said. Opposition forces also des-

troyed five armoured vehicles of the pro-Dudayev forces, he said, adding that it was not clear bow many civilians had also died in Wednesday's

Mr. Dudayev, a former Soviet Air Force bomber pilot, was elected president of Chechny a in October 1991 when he unilaterally declared the republic independent from Russia in a move recognised by no one.

Moscow has tried various methods to bring Chechnya back under its control, including an aborted troop deployment in late 1991 and an economic blockade, but has so far failed to do so.

### Italy is not just pizza and the mafia — Berlusconi

ter Silvio Berlusconi said Friday he was angry that "fewer than 100 mafia bosses" were giving Italy a bad name but he denied such remarks belittled the fight against orga-

Mr. Berlusconi ran into a storm of criticism this week after he was quoted as saying similar things about the size of the mafia threat during a visit to Moscow.

Called before parliament's the significance of organised

crime, Mr. Berlusconi said his government would fight the mob with all its forces. "I take umbrage when our image becomes that of the mafia," be told the commis-

There are 57 million people in Italy, four million of tbem entrepreneurs, and, what I'm told, fewer than 100 dangerous mafia

Mr. Berlusconi said a survey he had read recently showed that Italy's image abroad was dominated by pizza, the mafia and "a soc-cer team." He was referring

to European champions AC Milan, which he owns.
"I said to myself that we

had to stop a dangerous, damaging activity — one we must fight with all our forces from characterising everything Italians do," he said. Mr. Berlusconi was sum-

moned before the commission at the request of Antonio Bargone, leader of the opposition Progressives Group in the Chamber of

Mr. Bargone said after Mr. Berlusconi's remarks in Moscow last week that the prime minister's statements signalled "an alarming loss of energy in the fight against organised crime.

The prime minister, owner of a \$7 billion a year media and business empire. acknowledged he was partly to blame for the negative image by co-funding TV movies on

"Fiction is the most dangerous form of film because it gets onto all the world's television channels, especially if it's well done, and can make the mafia's image overshadow the image of our country," he said.

## Hutu refugees may invade Rwanda

GOMA, Zaire (AFP) -Hutu refugees cramped into makeshift huts in six sprawling camps on Zaire's border with Rwanda are becoming increasingly restless and could be readying for an armed invasion of their homeland, U.N. officials

The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) officials also fear that food being distributed by international aid agencies to the estimated 820,000 refugees, including innocent civilians and mass murderers, is being stockpiled by Hutu militias in preparation for a cross-border incursion into the country they fled during a brutal civil war earlier this

In the past two weeks, the officials said, political activity has increased noniceably in the two largest camps, Kibumba and Katale, both north of here.

Reports of clandestine hilitary training in the camps are also becoming more frequent, as are the number of occasions when youths take to the muddled pathways and streets of Kibumba and Katale in displays of force. And former Rwandan Prime Minister Jean Kamofficials and aid workers, is being sighted increasingly frequently in the camps, in contravention of UNHCR rules that forbid political

Driving through Kibumba, 15 kilometres north of here, Thursday, an AFP reporter saw a 100-strong group of youths, stripped to the waist and sodden from a torrential downpour, running rhythmically along a road, some brandishing machetes.

Refugees watching the display identified them simply as "the soldiers."

The ousted Hutu regime's hardline Interahamwe militias formed similar groups when they unleashed their terror after Hutu President Juvenal Habyarimana died in a presumed rocket attack on his plane on April 6.

Up to one million people, mostly members of the Tutsi minority, were killed before the militias fled in July to Zaire along with hundreds of thousands of civilians and 30,000 to 40,000 Hutu troops, who collapsed before the victorious Tutsi-dominated Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) army that now governs

the country. UNHCR field officer for Katale camp, Jesper Jensen,

not personally witnessed military training in the camp, there were enough "signals" — including the sighting of firearms and hand grenades at Katale Wednesday - to take seriously grapevine re-

ports that it was occurring.

"It seems efforts are being

made, to organise a mood for an attack," he said. There were also concerns. he added, that powerful poli-

tical figures from the ousted Hutu regime had taken control of the Social Commis-sions established to regulate life and, and more signifi-cantly, organise security in At Katale, the former pre-

fect of Rwanda's greater Kigali region, Francois Karera, currently holds the powerful position of Social Commission head.

Mr. Karare was named by human rights group Africa Rights as having gone on radio in the Rwandan capital Kigali after Mr. Habyarimana's death to urge Hutus to kill Tutsis.

He is also reported to have said in July that the genocide act of war."

Mr. Karare has denied both claims. On the surface everything Mr. Jensen said. "But it is as if someone has spilt petrol on the ground. It just takes one idiot to throw a burning cigarette.

Kibumba field officer Guy Avognon acknowledged to AFP that there was more going on within the hundreds of refugee huts covered with plastic sheeting and scattered across the area's lush volcanic plains than camp officials would like.

"Security has become our main worry," he said. "Political movements are taking over. People are attending more and more meetings. They say they are cultural gatherings' but of course they are political meetings."

He said former Prime Minister Kambanda had been seen in Kibumba Thursday, 'creating a stir" among the population.

"But there is little we can Mr. Avognon said. "We can tell him that he is forbidden to be involved in politics in the camp, but that is about Meanwhile, Rwandan

Prime Minister Faustin Twagiramungu warned in an interview Friday that delays in foreign aid and in setting up the U.N. war crimes tribunal could lead to more violence



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By Dr. Masa Kells

## Jordan

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## House has job to do

THERE IS little doubt that on top of the agenda of Parliament when it reconvenes today will be the draft peace accord between Jordan and Israel. Many parliamentarians of all persuasions would probably search and find some loopholes or omissions of one kind or another. There will be outcries on the leasing arrangements whereby some Jordanian territory occupied since 1967 would revert to Jordanian sovereignty but remain in Israeli hands for a definite period of time. Others would question the wisdom of leaving many outstanding issues hanging up in the air and subject of future agreements. In actual terms, some of us would tend to be rather academic in discussing the draft agreement instead of dealing with it within the context of realism that surrounded the negotiating process over the past few years. The best course of action for Parliament or any parliamentary committee charged with the task of examining the treaty and reporting on it to the plenary is to keep in focus certain parameters in mind and see if they are reasonably taken care of in the text. Did Jordan for example regain sovereignty rights over all its territory? Did it acquire water rights that were denied it ever since the Arab-Israeli conflict erupted more than four decades ago? Have this country's economic, political and security needs been addressed to the satisfaction of the country's overall national interests? These and similar principles and guidelines should set the standards for passing judgements on the peace treaty. Meanwhile, we must also keep in mind that in any negotiating process there is always room for give and take. This is in essence the art and spirit of negotiations between any parties. There is no way that any party may negotiate and attain all its objectives. The main point here is whether the country has sacrificed any basic sovereignty rights to the other side.

This does not appear to be the case and that is why we stand in support of the peace treaty that the Jordanian leadership has successfully negotiated and the Cabinet approved.

### **ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES**

NOW THAT Jordan has reached a peace treaty with Israel, it is incumbent on the people to make the treaty succeed and make peace work as they had succeeded in maintaining their steadfastness throughout the past years of confrontation, said Al Ra'i daily. To ensure success of peace, said the paper, certain principled stands bave to be respected and national unity has to be strengthened by all means. The paper said that the peace treaty does not mean turning our back to the Arab and Islamic nations but rather bolstering ties at all levels to ensure support for our drive towards a lasting peace and stability in the region. Furthermore, democracy and pluralism are to be enhanced in social and political life because they constitute pillars for sustainable security and tranquility at the domestic and external fronts alike, added the daily. Jordan said the paper, is in need of support from the members of the Jordanian family and from the Arab and Islamic World around it so that it can deal with the challenges of peace as it did with the challenges inherent in the past confrontation with Israel. It said by signing the peace treaty Jordan and the Jordanian people are proving to the world they are oriented towards peace and ending all forms of hostility in this troubled region of the world.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily bitterly criticised the official Jordanian information services for delay in releasing the official text of the peace treaty with Israel, leaving the local media totally dependent on the Israeli press for the informal text published in Israel. Tareq Masarweb said that it is sad to see this happening at a time when nothing is kept secret from the Israeli media, and the Jordanian media remain reliant on foreign services for its information for the benefit of the local readers. Even Syrian President Hafez Assad had to rely on the text published in the Israeli and the foreign press, which provided incorrect information about Jordan leasing some of its lands to Israeli farmers as provided for in the published text of the treaty. Hence is Mr. Assad's criticism of the deal, said Masarweb. He said that such practice has throughout the past decades caused damage to Jordan's political stand and is continuing to do so, thanks to the unexplained and mysterious position of the Jordanian officials who try to keep things from the Jordanian Perspective

## Shortsighted vision and ill-founded criticism

nians last week should not be a dissuading factor for Jordan to get ahead in its plans to consolidate the peace treaty that it has reached with Israel.

The expected signing on Wednesday of the treaty in the south, the address of U.S. President Bill Clinton to the Jordanian Parliament and the King's possible presence in the Knesset when Mr. Clinton addresses the Israeli legislature are all major building blocks towards security and stability for the region and a new life for all its people.

Of course we hear voices of fear that Jordan is going too fast in its moves, leaving some people bewildered as to why

I think seeing haste in the Jordanian-Israeli track of negotiations is ill-founded. After all, the two countries signed an agenda for peace in September 1993 — after the Palestinians signed their own accord reached without coordination with Jordan — then the Kingdom and Israel sat down to negotiate seriously and reached solutions to the various border and water disputes between them, and then announced the peace treaty.

A closer look at the whole series of events since the peace process was launched in Madrid shows that Jordan has left little room for anyone to blame it. If anything, the

Kingdom was the aggrieved party. First, the Palesunians went ahead and negotiated their own peace deal with the Israelis. The deal may or may not be the right one for the Palestinians, but then the decision to accept it was not taken by Jordan but by the same leadership that is acknowledged worldwide as the sole legitimate representative of the Palesinian people. Therefore Jordan should not be held answerable, directly or indirectly or by any stretch of imagination, for the discontent that is among the Palestinians over the Oslo accord reached between Israel and the Palestinian people.

Second, regardless of the fact that it was not consulted in the Oslo negotiations or the final shape of the autonomy agreement. Jordan respected its commitment to upholding the PLO as the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and railied itself behind the PLO's

Third, despite Jordan's repeated calls and renewed efforts to reknit the fabric of Arab coordination, Arab coherence in the peace process disappeared. If anything, Jordan's endorsement of the Israel-PLO autonomy deal was the main factor behind the Syrian and Lebanese crincism of the Kingdom's moves for peace with Israel.

Ironically, the Syrians and Lebanese also appeared to have thought that Jordan and the PLO were plotting behind their backs and the Israel-PLO autonomy accord and the Jordan-Israel agenda were the products of those plots. And this partially explains the torrent of attacks levelled against Jordan and the PLO from Damascus and

Those who lament about the lack of Arab coordination should not forget that it was not Jordan which abandoned the concept of a coordinated Arab stand in the peace process. For all practical and technical purposes, the PLO represented the Palestinians in the peace talks and exercised its opiions. Again, the consequences — bad or good — of the option it found as suitable are a matter that should be dealt with by the Palestinians themselves.

Despite its own concerns over the fallout of the Oslo accords. Jordan stood by the PLO, repeatedly calling for coordinated moves so that the negative impact, if any, of the agreement could be dealt with in a coherent manner. No. the PLO was not ready for it. If anything, it went ahead and arrived at different agreements with Israel which may or may not bear good news for Jordan, which, however, continued to call for joint moves.

The controversy over Jerusalem and the PLO's on-therecord request to the United Nations that the Israel-Jordan treaty be amended to bring about a change in the reference to the Holy City are the direct results of non-coordination between Jordan and the PLO leadership. But then, Jordan should not be blamed for it. Had there been strong coordination, then it would have been more than clear to

strictly religious and that Jordan does not covet Palestin land, including Jerusalem. So much for the great understanding and brotherly relations that we hear PLO officials

talk about whenever they are in Jordan.

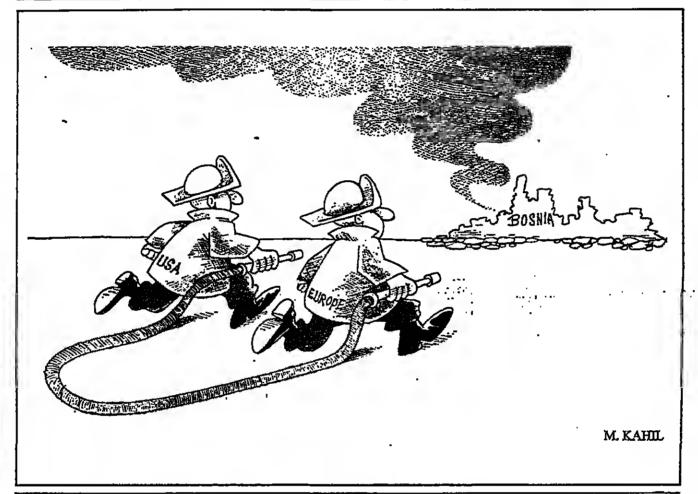
It makes little sense to argue that Jordan should not have supported the autonomy agreement. Had the Kingdom done so, as Syria and Lebanon did, it would have meant the loss of credibility for the PLO, throwing the whole peace process into chaos. It was not something Jordan could not

Now, after it worked out its own peace treaty with Israel we are bearing all kinds of criticism. The critics appear to overlook one simple factor: "With the PLO acting for the Palestinians and reached its own agreement with Israel, there was little reason for Jordan to hold itself back. And it managed to secure its territorial and water rights from Israel and announced a peace treaty.

The comments of Syrian President Hafez Al Assad in Cairo last week was very telling. The Syrian leader appeared to have steered clear of an overall rejection of the Jordan-Israel peace treaty and chose to criticise the specific parts of the document where the Kingdom and the Jewish state agreed to leasing parts of the land.

Obviously, President Assad is apprehensive that the Israelis would cite the leasing accord with Jordan in their negotiations over Syria's Golan Heights and the Israeli stand would be supported by th U.S., whom Damascus sees as the only power capable for pressuring Israel into accepting compromises.

As such, the Syrian leader should be given grudgin admiration for his tactical acceptance of the Jordan-Israel treaty. Indeed, Syria has the right to raise concern over parts of the Jordan-Israeli treaty which it might interpret as a possible leeway for Israel to pressure Damascus, and we have little to say about it except that it should rise above the menial technicalines to a level that accepts the requirements of the day in the changing international and



## Iraq crisis proves stability continues to elude the Gulf

By G. H. Jansen

WHO IS the winner in the latest round of the drawnout U.S.-Iraq confrontation? This question is valid even if round two is not entirely over, because both sides claimed victory after

round one. But the mere fact that there is round two proves that round one was, from the U.S. point of view, a military success but politically was indubitably a failure. Hence all the talk about "finishing the job" this time, that is knocking out President Saddam Hussein.

The old children's rbyme would seem to be true of both sides:

"The king of France be bad 10,000 men "he mar-ched them up the hill then marched them down

again."

Of the two leaders in the current dispute, U.S. President Bill Clinton appears the more foolish because while the king of France marched only 10,000 men np and down the hill and Saddam Hussein moved only two divisions of Republican Guards around in southern Iraq, Mr. Clinton dispatched hundreds of planes, tens of thousands of soldiers and many naval vessels, including two aircraft carriers to the other side of the world from where they will return without firing, or even hearing, a sbot fired in anger. If be is not to appear a foolisb king of France, Mr. Clinton will bave to make use of his forces against Iraq on one pretext or another.

The score chart of a referee of round two wnuld mark the plus and minus points of Iraq and the U.S. (plus Saudi Arabia and Kuwait) as follows: It bas been displayed once again that at the first sign of real trouble, Saudi Arabia and

Knwait feel the need to go running to Uncle Sam for protection. The billions of dollars the Gulf countries have spent on arms have not bought them strength and security and, furthermore, will actually weaken their regimes politically because of the inability of these countries to rely on their defensive abilities will widen the gap between the regimes and their opposition critics who resent dependence on the

West. This is not necessarily a failure of U.S. policy in the Gulf because it was never an objective of U.S., or earlier of U.K., policy to make the Gulf states strong and self-reliant, which from the point of view of the U.S. and the U.K. would bave been self-defeating.

But the balance of advantage and of bargaining power between the Gulf buyers and the U.S. seller bas shifted most significantly. The cost of waging a war balfway round the world is so enormous that after "Desert Storm" the U.S. was obliged to ask the Gulf countries to pay most of the bill — \$50 billion for Saudi Arabia, which it still has not finished paying. In the past week, the main subject of discussion between U.S. officials, like Defence Secretary William Perry, and the Gulf officials bas been the matter of pay-

But the Saudis and Kuwaitis are also making the discovery that military cooperation with the U.S. could end in bankruptcy even for these richest of the

oil rich states. The time will soon come, perbaps bas already come, when the iron rule that "be wbo pays the piper calls the tune" will prevail and the Arab paymasters insist on the U.S. destroying the Irathey bave paid their Amer-

ican allies to do. In short, it is becoming clear that the U.S. needs the Gulf just as much as the Gulf needs the U.S. because it is Arab arms contracts that keep the U.S. arms industry afloat.

Among several plns points for Iraq in the second round is the clear fact that this time there was no "Arab cover" for the coalition. In fact, there was no coalition at all as there was last time. There was even talk from Turkey that its southern airfield may not be made available to the U.S., which is a serious business because Turkey is

a NATO ally. Deep fissures bave appeared in the West European-U.S. alliance over Iraq because France openly and the U.K. covertly were not prepared, or very reluctant, to go along with a U.S. proposal for a punitive action against Iraq. This first open revolt by Europe against U.S. leadership sets

a new geo-political pattern in world affairs. If France and the U.S. are snapping at each other and maligning each other's motives, Russia and the U.S. are openly at odds because of round two. Indeed so opposed is the U.S. to Russian "interference" that it was not prepared to let the Security Council wait for a mere 18 bours to give the Russian Foreign Minister a chance to address the Council before

it voted on a resolution. For Iraq, indeed for any self-respecting Third World country, this preliminary return of Russia to its great power role as a player on the world stage, and to the days of the cold war, can only be welcome.

Thanks to the terms of a Russian declaration on the

crisis, a time limit bas at last been mentioned for the lifting of sanctions - six months. Thanks to the Iraqi troop movements this issue of U.N. sanctions is once more on the world's agenda. That the sanctions are a cause of conflict is now ob-

The appearance of the "bedouin," the expelled former residents of Knwait, who are still encamped on the border of the emirates, serves to remind the world of how beartless and selfisb Knwait's policy can be.

The major plus point for the U.S. in the second round is that it achieved its major goal: The massive American build-np persnaded or frighened President Saddam Hussein into cancelling out his recent build-up near Kuwait in a bumiliating withdrawal of two Republican Guard divi-

Also, Iraq declared itself ready to recognise Kuwait's sovereignty, which is a major concession because the move would be very unpopular in Iraq. Further, the U.S. bas

sbown that it is a reliable friend that is able to provide swift protection to its allies even on the other side of the world.

The value of prepositioning war material in the area has been proven. Also, the U.S. bas achieved a longbeld military objective: A permanent military presence in the Gulf area. This review of the re-

feree's point card shows that in the second round Iraq is, so far, ahead on points. Therefore the answer to the initial question is, "yes," for Iraq. To retain that lead all that President Saddam Hussein has to do now is to keep his head down, and not make any mistakes.

## THE WEEK IN PRINT Violence should not slow the peace process

Reviewed by Elia Nasrallah

THE ATTACK on the bus in Tel Aviv reminds the world of the attack on the Muslim worshippers inside the Al Ibrahimi Mosque last February, when scores of innocent civilians were killed, said Al Ra'i daily. both incidents were bloody and need not have happened bad the occupations. not been there, it said. to threats against the Arabs plus the collective punishment against the population can only increase the batred between the two sides and could lead to counter acts of vengeance from extremists in Israel and on the Palestinian side, warned the daily, the right to resist occupation is legitimate though Jordan condemn all acts of terrorism against the civilians, said the paper.

Taher Adwan, a col-umnist Al Dustour, said that by closing the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, Israel is not taking revenge for the death of the 22 Israelis in the Tel Aviv bus blast against a certain group or organisation but rather against a wbole peo-

The cycle of violence. said the writer, will continne as long as Israel occupies Arab lands. Ending occupation, she said, is the right way of ending the killing of innocent people on both sides. The Israelis, said the writer, should face the facts and should comply with the requirements of genuine peace.

Mahmoud Rimawi, a columnist in Al Ra'i, said that the continued occupation is bound to breed more violence and lead to further bloodsbed. The continued detention of thousands of Palestinians, obstruction of Palestinians moves to enbance self-rule and bold free elections, continued acts of repression against the Palestinian people and other arbitrary actions, said the writer, can only lead to further violence and further sufferings. He said Israel is duty bound to create the right climate for peace in theory and practice.

Samih Maayata, a col-

umnist in Al Dustour, said

that Hamas, which bas been carrying out attacks on Israeli targets, realises that it alone is shouldering the task of resisting occupation. Hamas represents the burning flame of hope and the genuine resistance at a time when Arab countries are accepting capitulation to Zionists and succumbing to hegemony, said the writer. Having accepted to play this role, said the writer. Hamas is bound to pursue its resistance activty and offer further sacrifices for the sake of liberation despite the current efforts on the part of the Arab countries and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to attain a settlment through peaceful methods. Editorial in Al Dustour,

Al Ra'i and Sawt Al Shaab dailies all lauded the Jordamian and describing the peace treaty as just and fair and guaranteeing the restoration of all Jordanian rights. The peace treaty for the first time reflects Israel's decision to define Israeli government's resorted its borders with the Kingdom, a step which could have never been taken in a climate of hostilities and conflict, said the papers. They said that the overwhelming support from foreign nations should give Jordan further impetus to pursue its efforts to reach a final peace ensuring all par-

Mohammad Subeihi, a columnist in Al Dustour, said that the peace treaty should be at the centre of seminars, panel discussions and other meetings at all levels and members of the public ought to have the right to air their views in support of or opposition to the peace treaty. The writer said that only through dialogue and through discussions of advantages and disadvantages of the deal can citizens by continued of

its viability.

Saleh Qallab, a columnist in Al Dustour, said that the Americans were instrumental in speeding up the initialling of the peace treaty so as to improve the Clinton administration's image at home where congressional elections are soon to be held. The writer said the Israeli government, which has been facing growing dissatisfaction from the Israeli society over its policies and the death of the kidnapped Israeli soldier, wanted to present the Israelis with a success that would help them forget their other

Hamadeh Faraaneb, a columnist in Al Dustour, welcomed visits to Jordan by delegations representing the Israeli Arabs and said that the visits reflect the interrelated national interests and their affiliation to the Arab Nation. The writer said that the visits and the meetings with Jordanian officials reflect the deep desire of more than 800,000 Palestinians Christians and Muslim living in Israel, to remain bound to their kinsmen.

culturally and socially. Taber Adwan, a columnist in Al Dustour, criticised the Muslim Brotherbood in Jordna and Egypt for attacking the Iraqi troop movmenet near the Kuwaiti border. The Islamists have attacked the Iraqi leadership for its moves as causing danger to the Gulf. said the writer, who asked whether the Islamists consider the presence of U.S. forces in Kuwait as a must to ensure safety for the

## Israel to quit Jordan's land in 3 months

(Continued from page 1)

anybody for lack of coordination, and recalled Jordan's keen interest and resolve to extend its hands for cooperation and coordination with

those who wish to do so. Prince Hassan said the latest Jordanian move was not directed against anybody nor did it target any Arab

"The Jordanian move is based on firm principles, involving Jordanian territory without prejudice to the terri-tories occupied in 1967, since we are bound by virtue of the international laws and conscience to always be reminded of the territories occupied in 1967. This legal position constitutes a legal cornerstone which should not be ignored," Prince Hassan

The Crown Prince said the major elements, such as water and territory and a package of major and sub-titles, in addition to security, formed the basis for the Jordanian move to develop the peace treaty. He said Jordan has been able through the nego-tiations process to ensure its share of water from the Yarmouk River. However, the Jordanian negotiator had to stress the fact that Jordan is part of the Arah Nation, and that it is bound by the Arah League and Organisation of Islamic Cooference agreements and that it does in no

wards withdrawing.

emment.

same." he said.

Jewish enemy.

Dr. Sa'id.

zag Tubeishat.

said they have.

Mr. Mansour said the 16-

member IAF bloc will exer-

cise all its constitutional

rights to block the peace trea-

ty, incloding proposing a vote

of no confidence in the gov-

As a political party, the

IAF will call for tolerating

opposing poiots view, said

Dr. Farban. "We have shown

that we have done that, we

call on others to do the

As Dr. Farban said the

fight against peace with Israel

Arab-Islamic renaissance

project, Dr. Sa'id empha-

sised the IAF will also work

to resist any changes in leg-

islation that will make it illeg-

al for Jordanians to speak about Arab rights in Pales-

tine and the "enmity with the

But while leaving all their options open as to how they

will direct their "hattle"

against peace with Israel, all

the Islamist leaders agreed

that they will not join the

the instrument that will im-

plement the peace treaty with

Israel. We will resist it," said

The Islamists also

appeared reconciled to their

inability to control the speak-

ership of the House as a

means of fighting the peace

treaty, withdrawing the can-

didacy of Dr. Akaileh and

indicating they will put their

weight behind independent

Islamist Deputy Abdul Raz-

Tubeishat even though he

supports the peace process

because he is closer to a

"number of objectives" they

the Islamists to infinence the

might not be a chance for room."

The IAF will support Dr.

The government will be

Id not

- ----

way accept to detach itself or be detached from the economic and social body. He added that Jordan re-

serves the full right to defend itself against any external aggression or internal sabot-

Three years after the negotiations started, we felt a serious desire by the second party to the negotiations to make progress. We announced publicly that we should not miss the opportune chance to restore our

We contacted, coordinated and clarified our position with the concerned Arah capitals and expected their feedback, particularly our Palestinian brothers, from whom we are still expecting the minimum commitment to the agreements signed by them so that we can give life to the Arah and Jordanian lung east of the River Jor-

The Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty, Prince Hassan said, is different from the Oslo and Camp David agreements in that it was not hrokered by any party, nor was it imposed by anybody.

Prince Hassan said he found out during his meeting with United Nations Secretary General Boutros Ghali in New York that there was an international move to set up a development fund for Gaza

Parliament opens new session today

shape of the current era but

they will have a chance in the

future io protecting the

Jordanian model and articu-

lating the nature of the future

All indications are at this

point that the Islamists will

oot be able to carry the candi-

date they favour to the speak-

ership of the House with

many parliameotary sources

saying that independent de-

puty Sa'd Hayel Srour re-

mains the favourite to wio the

the 12-member National

Democratic Coalition, is

counting on the support of

the 10-member National Bloc

and the National Action

Front which have over 20

members, parliamentary

sources said. They said Mr.

Srour, a former minister from

the Northern Bedouin dis-

trict, can also count on the

backing of a number of inde-

Dr. Tubeishat is expecting

the support of the IAF, and a group of 13 independent de-

puties and other lawmakers

who supported the candidacy

of incumbent Taher Al Masri

hefore he announced his

At least two sources said

Mr. Srour already has more

than the 41 votes he needs to

win in the first round of

ity of having U.S. President

Bill Clinton address Parlia-

ment, the Islamic leaders all

said Mr. Clinton "is not wel-

come in Jordan," but stressed

that they have not yet

reached a decision on how to

enemy of the Arab and Mus-

lim nation," said Mr. Man-

Dr. Sa'id also confirmed

President "Clinton is the

express their position.

Responding to the possibil-

balloting.

withdrawal from the race.

peodent deputies.

Jordanian-Palestinian rela-

(Continued from page 1)

race.

Strip similar to the one established to develop Sarajevo. The transfer of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) to Gaza reflects the unique status of Gaza, the Crown Prince said. He stressed the need for addressing the humanitarian dimensions of the problem of the refugees and displaced persons who were forced to leave their country in 1948, 1967 and 1991.

Prince Hassan called for setting up a regional hank for reconstruction in this region, saying that the World Bank deals with a specific group of limited-income earners, covered by the economic reform programme.

What we are after is in fact private and public investment at both the regional and international levels at one time, and there are no such institutions dealing with this dimension," Prince Hassan

On the issue of the Palestinian refugees, Prince Hassan said it will be discussed in 1996. In our apparent reference to the trade agreements envisaged hy the treaty. Prince Hassan said Jordan is not the first country to do so. The Gulf Arah countries. Tunisia and Morocco have lifted the boycott on Israel

that the IAF has not yet

decided whether to bopycott

the session in which Mr. Clin-

ton could address Parlia-

ment, hut sai dhe and other

members of the IAF will not

attend even if the front de-

that the IAF has not yet

decided whether to boycott

the session in which Mr. Clin-

ton could addresses Parlia-

meot, hut said he and other

members of the IAF will not

attend even if the front de-

Dr. Sa'id said he consi-

a provocation

dered the visit of Mr. Clinton

against the people." Dr.

Farhan, who is considered to

be among the most moderate

Islamists, reiterated his col-

leagues' position that Mr.

Clinton "is not welcome in

choose our method of ex-

pressing our rejection of Mr. Clintou's entry to the House.

We will either boycott the

session or make Mr. Clinton

know how we feel about

In addition to the peace

process, the second session of

the House will address a

number of draft legislations.

In the first session, the House

approved 30 draft laws which

included the sales tax law, the

municipalities law and the

U.S., U.K.

warn Iraq

(Continued from page 1)

"Not only the neighbour-

ing countries, but the whole

world community should be

vigilant and alert to check the

aggressive spirit (of Saddam)

until the Iraqi people says its word." King Fahd said.

"Every right-minded per-son knows that the course of

action taken by the Iraqi reg-

ime is a menace... even to the

Iraqi people themselves," the

King Fahd rarely grants

interviews, and his statement

to the Arabic daily suggesting

President Saddam's ouster

was a contrast to the quiet

diplomacy the kingdom

usually employs in defining

Nicolai Kartozof told a

"Russia will do everything

the embargo," the ambassa-

Mr. Kartozof, who last week became the first Rus-sian ambassador to be posted

to Baghdad since the 1991

Gulf conflict, said his instruc-

cons were to "make every

possible effort to develop re-

lations between Iraq and

dor told Youth TV.

its foreign policy.

71-year-old monarch said.

tenancy law

him," said Mr. Mansour.

"We reserve the right to

cides not to boycott.

to jorgan

Jordan.

Dr. Sa'id also confirmed

cides not to boycott.

before Jordan. The volume of trade between the Gulf Arab countries and Israel is \$500 million, he said. faithful in Bonn.

> Treaty on European Union (EU) into being in 1993, he says he has nothing left to prove hut much to achieve. "My political ambition has been satisfied," he said last year. Last week be announced his twin aims of

> giving European Unity another push and helping Germany's two halves grow together would keep him in office until 1998, but no

seemed wishful thinking. Discontent had over-

fication.

## Germany's Kohl just goes on and on

By James Goldsmith Reuter

BONN - Helmut Kohl who was on Sunday headed for his fourth successive term as German chanceling, is one of the world's great political survivors.

 As chancellor since 1982,
 Mr. Kohl has outlived the era of former contempor-aries Rouald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher. If he goes on until 1998 as promised, he would become Germany's longest-serving chancellor this century.

Even the leftist weekly Der Spiegel accorded him a place in history alongside the founder of modern Ger-

many, calling him "Bis-marck in a cardigan."

As if to underscore his staying power despite adversity, computer projec-tions showed Mr. Kohl winning Sunday's general elec-tion with only a tiny majority for his coalition.

Basking in his projected victory, Mr. Kohl on Sunday mocked journalists and commentators who earlier this year had predicted the chancellor would lose.

"They said Helmut Kohl and the CDU (his Christian Democratic Party) were on their way out, hut now we're back and it's time to get down to work," he told hundreds of cheering party

After overseeing German unification in 1990 and guiding the Maastricht

looger.
Early this year, as Mr.
Kohl's CDU trailed the
centre-left Social Democrats (SPD) in surveys and Germany was stuck in recession, that would have

taken his crowning achievement of shepberding East and West Germany to unity on Oct. 3, 1990 - without violence and with the hlessing of both the communist Soviet Union and Germany's occasionally du-bious Western allies.

Two munths after becoming the first chancellor of reunited Germany, Mr. Kohl war reelected with only 43.8 per cent, the worst showing for the CDU and its Bavarian CSU allies since 1949.

Germany plunged into its deepest recession since World War II and its finances creaked under the strain of rebuilding formerly communist East Germany's decrepit economy. prompting steep tax rises and exhortations to work harder and mnan less.

Well over a million peo-ple lost their johs in the east alone as industrial production there fell hy 70 per

Unification brought another undesired consequence - the reemergence of a extreme right-wing and neo-Nazi fringe who hegan a wave of attacks against ayslum-seekers and immig-

Mr. Kohl's touch seemedto desert him when he incensed critics by not attending the funeral of five Turkish women and girls killed in a racist fire-bombing in the town of Solingen in May

Worse followed when he hand-picked the politically oaive East German lawyer Steffen Heitmann as his party's presidential candidate, only to withdraw him later after he aroused a storm of protest with his arch-conservative views.

Then, just as Mr. Kohl was starting to look like yesterday's man, he bounced back. With electioos in the air, timely economic recovery filling his sails and the SPD stumbling, be began to exude an optimism that even his own party lacked.

In August, Mr. Kohl walked on to the world stage where he has pushed to give united Germany a bigger role, seeing off the last of the Russian troops who bad heen stationed in East Germany and closing one more chapter of uni-

Ceremonies with Russian President Boris Yeltsin and U.S. President Bill Clinton reminded Germans of the



Helmut Kohl

warm personal relationship he has established with both

Significantly, Mr. Kohl seemed by then to have won hack many Eastern German voters who had long heen resentful that soaring unemployment had not given way to the "flourishing landscapes" he promised them at unifica-

Mr. Kohl had again timed his move to perfection, just as in 1990 when, with bis fortunes languishing, he saw history suddenly pick up speed and determined to steer it his The Chancellor, who at 1.93 metres (six feet four inches) and 115 kg has the physique to match his clout. had been written off more than once in his earlier career

He first ran for chancellor in 1976, narrowly losing to Mr. Schmidt. Then he had to stand aside as the right's most stirring orator. Franz Josef Strauss, made a hid for the top and failed.

Mr. Kohl finally made it in 1982 when the small Free Democratic Party (FDP) deserted Mr. Schmidt and formed a government with

Mr. Kohl, the Roman Catholic son of a minor civil servant, was born on April 3, 1930 in the Rhine River Port of Iudwigshafen. The end of World War II found him in ao army cadet

He won a doctorate in history at Heidelberg University and was the youngest member of the Rhineland-Palatinate State it in 1959. A decade later, be was the state premier and on his way to the top.

He bas a wife, Hannelore, and two grown-up

## Witchcraft, faith healers abound on remote

The Associated Press

SIQUIJOR, Philippines -It could be any doctor's in any poor village: patients waiting silently, hoping for a cure. But this hearler uses herbs, chants and magic

Eliseo Bulanan is one of about 75 faith healers on Siequijor, an island of 50,000 people 640 kilometres southeast of

Manila\_ "It's a gift of God," Mr. Bulanan, 28, said of his supposed power. "I cannot explain it. I am simply a

For centuries, Siquijor has been identified with "kulam," or hiack magic, with mysticism and faith healing. Spanish colonisers named the island Isla del Fuego (Island of Fire) because of mysterious lights

haven of witchcraft has spread so far that during the Islamic uprising of the 1970s in the Philippines, both soldiers and Muslim guerrillas came to huv

The healers of Siquijor use many techniques. Some treat exclusively with herbs. others with mystical chants. The "bolo-holo" chants phrases from the Latin mass and blows through a straw into a water glass contain-

Educated Siquijorans find the den-of-witches image embarassing. "Few people here believe in that stuff anymore," said Nico-laas Van Roselaar, a dutchman who married a Filipina and runs a small inn. "It's only people outside the is-

As Benjamin Aquino, the provincial governor, explained it: "For the literate and those with higher

education, they don't believe in magic. But the illiterate do. There are people from other provinces

Mr. Aquino, ever in search of revenue, envisions building an occulttourism trade on the island's unique reputation. When not pursuing their special interest, he notes. the visitors could enjoy the white-sand beaches and

Felix Suamen, who works "the beliefs are passed on from parents to their chil-

Most of the magic used enemy, for example, to ruin his crops, cause illness or

The practice of black apparently were reprisals for evil spells, the governor

One faith healer said con-

Siguijor rituals fuse elements of conventional Roman catbolicism and beliefs that prevailed before Span-ish missionaires brought Christianity in the 16th cen-

> la in the area, which badly needs an economic boost. In the reception of the drab hotel in the nearby

## Patriotic Romanians fight shy of Dracula legend.

By Philippa Fletcher Reuter

BRAN, Romania — Anyone passing through the Transylvanian village of Bran on the night of the full moon in Sept. 1987 would have been forgiven for

thinking Dracula had returned to his legendary lair. Locals say an uminous howling came from the castle on the hill. On the battlements the moonlight outlined 11 figures with pale faces, red eyes and sharp

Castle guide Mnnika Pusztai, who was there that night, said that despite appearances, the 11 were not victims of the famnus vampire but merely a group of Dracula fans from Bri-

As far as she is concerned, the strangest thing about the event was not the behaviour of the participants, who paid \$165,000 to enact their fantasies, but the fact that it was not repeated for other Dracula

enthusiasts. There were other tours for foreigners but they were very low-key," said Ms. Pusztai.

Romania's former communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu, who allowed the Britons to use Bran on condition their visit was hushed up, had good reason to be cagey about the legend born of the 19th century novel by Irishman Bram Stoker.

Mr. Stoker was inspired by the 15th century Roma-nian prince Vlad, who inherited the name Dracula from his father. As Mr. Ceausescu's lyranny spread, his name began to

be linked with that of the vambire. Even now, five years after Mr. Ceausescu was executed in Romania's bloody revolution, there is no attempt to promote Dracuadmire a display of locally produced car radiators, but

there is no sign of the

famous vampire. Many visitors to Bran, expecting to see the grim fortress described in the novel, are disappointed by the tour around whitewashed Bran Castle where guides avoid men-

tioning Dracula. "There wasn't even a torture chamber," complained Suphie Shields-Brown, leading a group of tourists

from Britain. Ms. Pusztai and her hushand, Cornel Talos, who manages the castle, feel there is plenty of scope to develop the potential presented by both the real and fictional Draculas.

But they are aware many Romanians still feel uneasy about promoting a gruesome myth which came from abroad and could give their country and its history a bad name.

Under Mr. Ceausescu's rule the legend was conde-mned as "political pornography" and since then the mixture of fact and fiction in Hollywood creations such as francis Ford Coppola's "Dracula" has encouraged sceptics.

To try to overcome local sensitivities. Talos brought tourism and cultural officials to bran to try to agree on the right way to promote the castle. Apart from calls to avoid

a "Disney" approach, most of the speakers at the conference insisted that the historical Dracula be portraved as a hero, unlike his fictional namesake.

It is a sall order. The mediaeval prince got his name hecause of his hahit of impaling his enemies on spikes. He once nailed the turbans of visiting Turks to their heads because they had failed to doff them in

his honour. "If you think the horror films are frightening, you should hear what really happened," said Constantin

The spike was pushed inside the body along the spine, slowly so that it did not damage the internal organs," he said. "People lived for days."

In the context of the day. when boiling in oil, drowning, tearing apart and the like were commonplace and beheading was reserved for nobles, Mr. Rezachievici

said Vlad was not cruel. "Vlad was a man of great justice, a hero of the struggle against the Ottnman empire," he said. "It's just that he never forgave mis-

takes. Mr. Rezachievici and the other historians gathered in Bran said legends of Vlad's cruelty were invented by his enemies. "The one about how he had lunch near impaled people, for example, because he enjoyed the

smell." After two days of debate. they and other delegates agreed that a team of officials should be appointed to sort fact from fiction and promote the two Draculas

in separate castle tours. They may find it hard to make the tours interesting without embroidering the

truth. Bran got the reputation as Dracula's lair at the turn of the century mainly because its towers and ramparts gave it a suitably spooky air — the real Dracula spent little time there

and Mr. Stoker based his fictional casile elsewhere. In any case, the officials seem to he a long way from realising their plans, stressing that before they could think of developing Dracula tourism, funds would have to be found for urgent repairs to the castle's founda-

If they do not get going soon, they may miss their chance. Enterprising Romanians are already sucking healthy profits from the vampire legend by encouraging Dracula fans to howl at the moon in other parts of the country.

## **Anani explains treaty**

(Continued from page 12)

Influential Deputy Abdul sour. "I will not be honoured Kareem Kabariti said there to sit with him in the same

Israel under similar conditions allowing for similar treatment to Israeli goods in

Referring to the question of refugees and displaced people, Dr. Anani said that the common agenda stipulates that Jordan and Israel should enter negotiations Over these questions and to be guided by the international law. However, he added. Jordan cannot on its own discuss this question without coordiantion with the Palestine National Authority. Jordan, the minister said, refrained from discussing this question in the absence of the Palestinians lest it would be said that a decision was taken not in the interest of the

He said that since part of the Palestinians hold Egyptian travel documents the question of diplaced people should be discussed by the

four parties: Egypt, Jordan, Israel and the Palestinians. Concerning the holy shrines in Palestine, the minister said that the treaty

provides for freedom for ac-

cess to them.

claim sovereignty over Jerusalem has been given a special role for caring for the Islamic sites in the Holy City and would only waver this

ity capable of handling religious affairs there. providing protection for and holy sites but does not want to secure political gains there and therefore Jordan will continue to exercise the right of caring for these boly sites until the time comes for the

Asked whether the peace treaty with Israel is to be considered as a separate solution from the other Arab parties, Dr. Anani said that this treaty should help all parties to reach a comprehensive settlement.

Jordan does not accept any tutelage because, the minister said, the Kingdom realises too well its own interests and had to take the move to achieve political gains but does not deny the others

right hy handing this author-ity to the Palestinian author-

Jordan, he added, has been funding restoration work at Palestine National Aurthority to be able to exercise the

Russia is doing everything it can to help lift the U.N. sanctions against Iraq, the new Russian ambassador to Iraq said Friday. television station run by President Saddam's son Uday that "the Russian people shares the suffering of the Iraqi people in its power, within the limits of its possibilities and in the U.N. Security Council, to lift

right to do so, he said.

Russia. Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev claimed credit Thursday for averting a new war, after returning to Moscow from visits to Baghdad and the United Nations.

# central island

By Robert H. Reied

words.

vehicle of the holy spirit."

they saw in the junglecovered mountains.

Siquijor's reputation as a amulets to protect them from bullets.

ing a magic stone to draw out the sickness.

land that believe."

who come here for magic."

snorkel through the rich coral. at the provincial hospital, said faith healers became popular before there were doctors on the island, and

by the healers is "white magic." But Mr. Aquino said black magic was common many years ago casting spells on a client's

make his husiness fail. magic ceased after several bombings in the late 1950s and early 1960s that

fidentially, however, that he knew of half a dozen 'magicians' who would cast an evil spell for 3,000 pesos, the equivalent of about \$115. Like Caribbean voodoo.

Amulets and magic potions of herbs, bark and roots are prepared during Easter week. Magicians believe their powers are greatest on the Saturday between Good Friday and Easter Sunday, because Christ has not yet risen from the dead.

## AFM apathetic to initialling Jordan-Israel peace treaty

By a Jordan Times Staff 5.2 million dinars, down 5.5 Reporter

'AMMAN - Jordanian investors did not take much notice of last week's initialling of a Jordanian-Israel peace treaty if only because they had aiready absorbed economic expectations of peace into their strategy at the Amman Financial Market (AFM), brokers said Friday.

The brokers said this explained the failure of the market to rise to the level of normal expectations in terms of prices and turnover during last week despite the initialling of the peace treaty.

If anything, both stock prices and turnover declined during the week, the weekly report of the market showed. The report said that the general price index hased on the stocks of 60 major companies closed at 144.4 points on Wednesday, the last day of trading for the week, down 0.8 points or 0.6 per cent from the week's opening of 145.2 point.

.. . The weekly turnover was

per cent from the previous week's 5.5 million, the report

The industrial sector accounted for 2.68 million or 51.4 per ceot of the volume. followed by the services sector with 1.41 million or 27.1 per cent, commercial banks with 1.08 million or 20.7 per cent and insurance stock with 40,000 dinars, or 0.8 per cent.

The separate sector indices also showed declines. The industrial index closed at 128.39 points, down 1.5 points or 1.2 per cent, the services stock index at 137.20 points, down 1.9 points. or 1.34 per cent, the insurance stock index at 139.95 points. down one point, or seven per cent, and the index for commercial hanks and financial institutions at 158.16 points or 0.14 per cent.

The report said 2.2 million shares changed bands during the week under 3.888 con-

were trading during the week. When trading closed. 18 of them showed gains, 41

showed declines and 15 remained unchanged.

The performance was not surprising, brokers said. "For more than a year now, investors had taken account of the expectations of Jordanian-Israeli peace and sought to reflect them on the shae prices." said a broker. "This was not limited to major institutions, but also almost everv individual with a portfolio at the AFM."

As such, the broker ex-plained, "everybody was aware that the signing of the treaty was not adding any new elements as far as the AFM was concerned.

Furthermore, investors are also careful not to boost prices when it is unclear whether the government go ahead with a proposal to remove capital gains from exemption and from

Government assurances that "the proposal not capital gains from taxes exempt needs to be studied closer have not done much to soothe investors, fears," said another hroker.

Mixed U.S. signals fuel dollar selling

LONDON (R) — Conflicting U.S. signals on currency policy gave more ammunition to dollar sellers Friday and dealers said the currency may keep plumbing new depths after hitting a new post-war low of 96.55 yen in Tokyo. Treasury Undersecretary

the United States had shifted its dollar policy and said Washington was prepared to intervene when appropriate. But his comments failed to wipe out the damage Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen had done to the dollar late Thursday when he said the

Lawrence Summers denied

Sbort-covering of earlier positions and widespread rumours of central bank intervennion helped pull the dollar off its lows late in the European session.

It was at 1.4980 marks and 97.30 ven at 1620 yen GMt compared with 1.5015 and 97.30 late Thursday in Europe. It earlier fell to a post-World War II low of around 96.55 in the Far East and touched a new two-year trough of 1.4883 marks. 'Everyone wants to test take the initiative and bopes someone else will go first," said Jiro Nagato, a senior dealer at Sumitomo Bank in London.

A large option-related order to sell dollars near 96.40 yen could trigger another round of sales when the market has thinned to leave only New York operators in play, dealers said.

"We recognise that in general the dollar represents market fundamentals, Mr. Summers told CNN's Business Day television program-

me. But there are times when intervention is appropriate. ... We would be

prepared ... to intervene."
Mr. Summers said the United States would prefer ro see a stronger dollar, in part because it belps hold down

inflation. "If we start gapping (sharp falls) and volumes pick up, we could see (central bank) intervention," said Paul Lambert, currency economist

at UBS in London. He added that market activity had not been disorderly this week as trading has been thin, and so far the

been the lone central bank trying to save the dollar.

"It makes it very difficult to figure out where they real-ly want the dollar," said Standard Chartered Bank's Juergen Lindemann, head of foreign exchange at the British bank in London.

Mr. Lindemann said that while U.S. authorities may publicly say they would like to see the dollar higher, they quietly allow it so drop. "It almost appears to me that is the case. As long as the slide is gradual they don't seem to mind."

## EU proposes doubling aid to Mediterranean states

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Commission has proposed doubling aid to non-EU Mediterranean countries to help modernise their economies and prepare for the creation of a freetrade area, Development Commissioner Manuel Marin

Mr. Marin said the commission had proposed an aid package of 5.5 billion ECUs (\$7 billion) for the five-year period 1995-1999, to help rehalance relations with the Mediterranean after establishing close ties with eastern Europe. "It's time to reestablish halance," Mr. Marin told a

news conference. European Union (EU) is providing about seven billion ECUs (\$6.9 billion) in aid to eastern Europe between now

and the end of the century. The EU aid would be for all non-member Mediterranean countries except Albania and ex-Yugoslavia and would supplement increased

member states, the World Bank and other international aid donors and the private

Mr. Marin also proposed a ministerial conference in 1995 to discuss peace and security in the Mediterra-

"It's absolutely vital for onr relations with the Mediterranean," he said, adding that it was particularly important that Germany, the current EU president, should bilateral funding from EU take up the idea at an EU

summit in Essen in Decem-

All countries bordering the Mediterranean, plus Jordan, which had concluded agreements with the EU, would

attend the conference. The European Commission envisages the creation by about 2010 of a Euro-Mediterranean free trade

area, which would include up

to 40 countries and 800 million people and be the world's largest. It would provide free trade in industrial products be-tween the EU, which plans to expand to include eastern European states, and most Mediterranean countries.

But trade in agricultural products, which is extremely sensitive due to competition between southern EU member states and North African countries, would be subject to certain safeguards.

EU membership of the Mediterranean countries, unlike those in eastern Europe, is not envisaged, Mr. Marin

## Dollar weakness may persist for some time even as the Fed continues tight monetary policy

The following report, covering the period from Thursday. Oct. 13-1994 until Wednesday. Oct. 19-1994. is provided by Naser Nabulsi, private client group at Merfill Linch-Dubai.

### Overview

\* Fundamental view: Persistent dollar weakness has a simple explanation: More money is leaving the United States than is coming in, reflecting large U.S. trade deficits and a new enthusiasm for foreign investment by U.S. residents. Rising U.S. rates should eventually help keep U.S. money at home. providing some support for the dollar. But foreign investors initially will fear capital losses on U.S. bond and stock investments as rates rise, so inflows of foreign capital may be discouraged.

As a result, dollar weakness may persist for some time even as the Fed continues to tighten monetary policy. We continue to look for the dollar to reach levels like JPY/USD 92 and DMUSD 1.45 over the next twelve months.

Technical view: The week eoded Oct. 14 was a difficult one for the U.S. dollar. The greenback lost ground against four of the six major currencies that we regularly monitor, managing to rally against only the Australian and Canadian dollars. The weakness continued into the first part of the current week with sharp dollar declines on Mooday. As a result, the index fell 1.3 per cent for its largest weekly decling since June. Importantly, the iodex now stands at its lowest weekly closing level since October 1992 and has marginally hroken the 86.65-87 0 hand of support that we have referenced for many weeks.

This hreak at least nominally raises the prospects for further weakness toward 84.90-85.70. However, a momenturn low has been in place for eight weeks. This means that the recent price weakness has not been confirmed and is iate stage move in the underlying decline. Medium term resistance exists at 88.40, with loog term resistance at 90.45.

### Pound sterling

Fundamental view: The British pound has surged against the dollar, hitting a two-year high of USD/GPB 1.619. Against the DM, the pound lost some ground following Chancellor Kohl's reelection on Sunday, dropping from last week's high of DM/GBP 2.45 to DM/GBP 2.42. The pound regained some of its losses after the post-election raily in the DM. faded. Recent data releases have been sending mixed signals' about inflation prospects in the U.K. Once set of releases gave soft inflation numbers: No acceleration in September output prices, consumer confidence down and a decline in manufacturing production. Another set of releases indicate the potential for higher inflation down the road: An increase in the annual growth rate of the narrow measure of mooey supply and a pickup in input costs. Data releases during the next few weeks should clarify the U.K. inflation situation. We expect to see another two, possibly three, 50 basis

point rate increases over the next twelve months which should keep inflacon under control. The first of these hikes are not expected till early next year since GDP numbers due this week should indicate that third quarter growth was slightly lower than in the previous quarter. Over the next few months, we expect the pound to continue to appreciate against the Deutschemark and the U.S. dollar as both the nominal and real interest rate differentials move in favour of the pound.

Our twelve month forecast is for a stronger pound at U.S.S'GBP 1.63 and DM/GBP 2.45.

Technical view: The British pound gained 0.5 per cent versus the U.S. dollar during the week ended Oct. 14 and an additional 1.0 per cent on Monday, Oct. 17 through 1.60 U.S.S/L resistance. The Consensus Inc. weekly sentiment reading deteriorated to its most unfavourable reading (95 per cent buils) in the seven years we have been monitoring the data. The currency was able to hold its recent break out from its loog standing trading range. Momentum remains under pressure, having made its most receot peak hack in July. Receot strength, therefore, has oot been confirmed and any further streogth may not be sustaioable.

In that regard, a break back below 1.57 U.S.\$/L would indicate that the rally treod is complete and allow for further weakness toward \$1.55. The trading range support remains at \$1.46. As for resistance, the rally through \$1.60 now

Against the DM. sterling fell 1.3 per ceot last week, hut remains in its multi-month downtrend. Momentum has bottomed and seems to be gathering steam. Resistance is at 2.467-2.475, with support at 2.38-2.41.

### Deutschemark

Fundamental view: Chancellor Kohl's victory-albeit narrowin the German elections on Sunday helped the . . S. dollar fall to a two-year low against the DM dropping below DM/U.S.\$ 1.50 level. The dollar got a little respite following Central Bank intervention and statements by Bundesbank President Hans Tietmeyer that any further interest rate cuts in Germany depend in part on a strong mark.

While the dollar's decline in the immediate future may be prevented hy concerted intervention hy central banks, the medium-term outlook for the dollar is continued weakness against the DM. The DM is hacked by sound economic fundamentals in the German economy: Moderate growth and declining inflation. The German economy grew 2.3 per cent year-over year in the second quarter following a 1.6 per cent increase in the first. Data available since then point to a continued recovery, but there is no indication that the German economy is overheating.

Healthy growth in Germany has considerably reduced the odds for another interest rate cut, which removes one possible prop for the dollar. Our German economic unit now expect stability in German official interest rates for the next several quarters even as inflation continues to decelerate. However, Mr. Tietmeyer's reiterated that the Bundesbank is keeping open its options on the question of interest rate cuts. Our six-month forecast is for the DM to appreciate to

DM/U.S. 1.45 with the possibility that the level may be reached earlier. Technical view: The Deutschemark rallied 1.8 per cent the

U.S. dollar last week and closed at its highest level in two years. This breakout was magnified by a further 1.4 per cent advance on Monday. Seotiment is neutral to near overbought. Momentum has been deteriorating since Angust, and seems to have the potential to remain under pressure for the rest of the year. This suggests that the recent strength (as well as the

underlying uptrend that has been in force since February) is close to a top. With that in mind, it would likely take a decline back through 1.59-1.61 DM/U.S.\$ to reverse that trend and confirm the action of momentum (although there is intervening resistance above 1.56). Strong resistance remains at 1.48-1.52.

Against the yen, the D-mark remains 0.7 per ceot last week, but remains ocar its high for the year. Medium term oscillators have picked up some steam, but are overbought. We still think that ooce the current generates at 59-60, with resistance above 66.50.

### Japanese yen

Fundamental view: The yen traded as high as JPY/USD 101 in a flurry of dollar optimism which followed a subdued resolution to U.S.-Japan trade talks which coocloded on Sept. 30. But evidence that the U.S.-Japan trade imbalance remains at an annual rate of nearly \$60 hillion points to little respite from the dollar any time soon. Likewise, a sharp oet outflow of long-term capital from Japan in recent mooths-5140 uillion at an annual rate-looks unsustainably high relative to Japan's current account surplus of about \$130 billion. The Fed is expected to raise interest rates by another 50 basis points in mid-November and to cootinoe to raise the funds rate to 6.25 per cent hy mid-1995.

While that eventually may provide support for the dollar, rising rates may initially discourage capital inflows into U.S. stock and bond markets by raising the risk of capital losses. We expect the trend of higher U.S. rates and a weaker dollar to continue well into 1995, hringing the dollar to JPY/USD

Vitamins AND HEALTH PRODUCTS

By Glasbergen

THE BETTER HALF

### 92 yen over the next twelve months.

Technical view: The Japanese yen rallied 2.6 per cent versus the U.S. dollar during the week ended Oct. 14, and after two difficult weeks-was the strongest of the six currencies we most regularly discuss. The yen railied an additional 0.6 per cent this past Monday. Following the recent break of the February-October uptrend line, the Consensus Inc. weekly sentiment reading improved to its most favourable level (only 11 per cent hulls) since the beginning of the year (just before this year's rally began).

Even so, momentum has a negative bias, and last week's rally was not confirmed. Medium term (first) resistance exists at 100.80 Y/U.S.S, with longer term resistance coming in at 101.80, Important support exists at 96.60-97.60; a break of that level would allow for a move through 93.

### HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY OCTOBER 22, 1994 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A good day for fetreting out some truths in relationships that have been on your mind, concerning others. Don't act on this information immediately but use it wisely when the right moment presents itself.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Find the right items to improve your environment and be happier in it. Get your wardrobe made more charming and stylish for success.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Look for types of recreation which can relieve tensions. Get good friends to join you in hobbies which

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) This is a good day to get into family Entertain them well but not expensively.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Visit friends with whom you have good rapport. This is a good day to handle any correspondence which is vital in your welfare.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Beautify your home so it will be inviting to friends. Study your books and be sure you have a workable budget. Show that you are sensible towards critical friends.

VIRGO: (August 22 in September 22) You arise feeling great and ready to handle any projects. See friends and deepen the relationship you have by showing more thoughtfulness to them. LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) This is a good day to confer with others and enjoy pleasures. Much care must be exercised in driving and in conversations held with others.

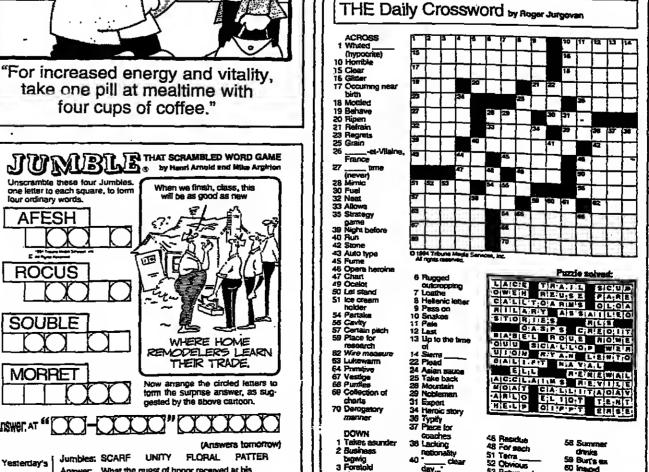
SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Get shopping and others errands, completed quickly, then either call or visit as many good friends as you can. Come to an understanding with them. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You can work on public projects today for which you have little time during regular weekdays. Try to see an influential person.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You have new ambitions which can make your career far more enviable. You may have to take a little trip. Drive wisely on the highway.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Handle your responsibilities with care. Show your mate more affection in the evening. Don't take your loved ones for granted.

PISCES: (February 20 in March 20) A talk with outsiders can yield fine benefits to you. Get some special hobby perfected in your spare time. Get in the market early in the day.

Birthstone of October: Opal Tourmaline



### Peanuts



DOUST IF I'LL BE ABLE

YOU'RE JUST LIKE THAT OLD JALOPY

**Andy Capp** 



OBUGES AOP (CONTD)

SURE







### **Mutt'n'Jeff**

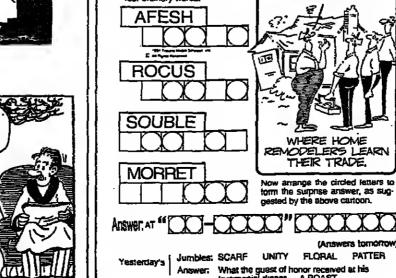


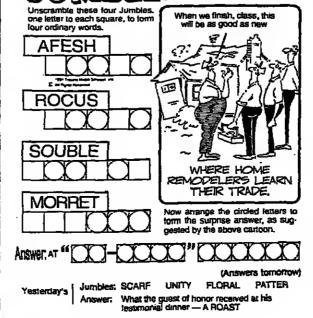


WELL ----









take one pill at mealtime with four cups of coffee."

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Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2170
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UAE Diybam	0.1275	0.1890
Greek Drachma	0.2775	0.3100
Cypriot Pound	1.4270	1.5750

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NICOLE EAST SAVESTMENT SAME.	10,083			
EXECUTED AL DEVELOPMENT SAME THE BOTTS LING HAVE	28,425		2.950	
JORDAN FUMALT BANK	58, 110 30, 554		5.100 2.970	
JOHNAN CULF BAST	36,515	1.700	1.770	
ARAS JORDAN INVESTMENT SAME.	7,900	3.800		
JORDAY ISLANIC BANK	202,122			
BOE70254 RAID	31,525	3.710		3.700
JORDAN INVESTMENT 4 PLANMER BANK	4,44			
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ARMAR SAITE FOR LINVESTHERT	67,732			
ARAB BANKING CONFORATION/JORDAN PHILADELPSIA INVESTMENT SAME.	1,219		3.200 1.860	
JORDAN INSURANCE	17.250			
JORDAN FRENCH INSURANCE	10,964			
MUL) LAND INSURANCE	710			
JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER	45.362		1.550	
AMAD INTERNATIONAL MOTELS	55,415			
JORDAN MATICMAL BRIPPING LINES	12,989			
MATTOWAL PORTPOLIO SECURITIES	33, 108			
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	3,382			1.300
JORDAN GULP REAL ESTATE LEVESTRENT	7,688			
JORDAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTER UNITED MIDDLE EAST 5 CONNUDERL HOTELS ARAB LATER, FOR INVESTIGATE 5 EDUCATION	4,639			
AND THE PART S COMPONENT HOTELS	500,849	3,540		2.510
ARAB INTER. FOR INVESTIGATE 5 EDUCATION THE JOHNAN CENTRE FACTORIES	13.824		3.700	
JORDAN PROSPURIT MINES	142, 199 <b>2</b> 43			
JORDAN PETROLEUM REFLERAN	22, 374	9.450		
JORDAN TAMBING	7,884		7.500	
WCOLEN INDUSTRIES	91		1.850	
THE IMPOSTRIAL CONDERCIAL & AGRICULTURAL				
THE JOHDAN WORSTED MILLS	35,481	8.850		
ARAB PRABHACEUTICAL KANDPACTURING	188, 547	4.970	4.940	4.450
JORDAN CERAMIC INDUSTRIES	4,778			
JURDAN PAIRY	300			
THE JORDAN PIPES MANUFACTURING	13,002			
JOSEPH PAPER 4 CARDBOARD FACTORIES	2:6	4.300		
SPINGING 4 WEAVING RAFIA DOUGSTRIES	5,555			
PAR AL DAMA DEVELOPHENT 4 INVESTMENT	8,547		2.120 15,250	
ARAB SEVENTICHT & INTERNATIONAL TRADS	130.827 36.519			
AMAD ALDRIBIUS INDUSTRY	59,241			
GENERAL THVESTMENT	1,425		3./50	
ARAB PAPER CONVERTING & THADLES	55,575		1.440	
MATTORAL COOKY TERRORINA				
DITEMBRIANT PERO-CHRICAL MINUSTRIES	18.058			
JOHNAS ROCKWOOL INDUSTRIES	35,484		1,650	
UNIVERSAL CHEROCAL THROUGHFALES	6,118			
JORDAN INDUSTRIES 5 MATCH/JINCO	;5.311			
MATICHAL CABLE 4 WIPE HANDFACTURING	27,750	5.000	5.700	
	10,663			
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THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF TH	18,419			
UNIVERSAL HODERY INDUSTRIES	44,481			
JURDAN INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES CO.	340, 200	6.820	1.800	2.150

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COMPANY'S NAME	THAD ING	PREV.	OPENING	CLOS (NO
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AMERICA MI	EPORT				
COMPANY'S MAIG	TRADING VOLUME JD	PREV. CLOSING PRICE	DAJCE ObenTing	PALCE	
Thirty County County of Co					
CENTRAL GENERAL TRADIES 4 STORAGE	25.125				
JORDAN TRADE FACILITY IS	38,542				
MIDDLE PAST FOR DEVL. 4 TRADE CO.					
FIDER PRIVATE DELVERSITY	32,750		1.600	1.470	
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MAN PROMETRAL INVESTMENT	763.528		1.600	1.500	
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PATIONAL CHARGES INCOMPRESS CO.LTD	95,151	4,200	2.340	2.150	
MATIONAL TEXTILE & PLASTICS IND. CO	55,506	1.540	1.520	1.520	
JORDAN MEN CAMLE COMPARY	55,651	2.170	2.150	2,350	
MATTCHAL HULTIPLE ISDUSTRIES	P2,462	1.450	1.630		
EL-ZAS READY WEAR HAMIN'ACTURING CO.	27,117				
INTERNATIONAL TONACCO & CIGARETIES	529,062	2.000	2,100	2.020	
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INSIGN CHRICAL & ADSTAUR OF INDUCES!	Bez			3.090	
GRASS TOTAL	2.037,543				

# Turkish business delegation begins talks in Jordan today

By Elia Nasrallah

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A 70-member delegation, representing the business community in Turkev, Saturday starts two-days of meetings with the Jorda-nian Businessmeo Association (JBA) and government officials to boost trade and economic links between Tur-

key and Jordan. A JBA official told the Jordan Times Friday that the group, which together with a JBA team forms the Jordanian-Turkish Joint Business Council, represents a large sector of Turkev's trade, industry, contracting and engineering consultancy

ministries in Ankara. He said that the meetings,

which will start Saturday at the JBA offices, have been called to discuss scopes of commercial and economic cooperation between Turkey and Jordan and to chart plans for the coming stage in the light of the ongoing developmeots leading to a Middle East peace.

While industrialists from both sides will be discussing issues of common concern. the contractors will be dealing with their own line of business at separate meetings and the commercial sector discussing trade exchange at Philadelphia Hotel, said the official.

One topic before the coun-

question of increasing Jor-dan's exports to Turkey's market io an attempt to adjust the balance of trade

which is in favour of Turkey. The official said that Turkey last year sold Jordan JD 5g.44 million worth of goods and imported only JD 12.5 million worth of Jordanian products, mainly minerals.

Turkey, be added, imports phospbate and potash from Jordan although the Turkish side has not imported the agreed amounts of phosphate and potash in the past years.

For instance, Turkey's imports of Jordanian phosphate in 1992 amounted to 433,000 tonnes but had dropped to 306,000 tonnes last year. This potash and phosphate exports to Turkey.

According to the official, the Turkish delegation will be meeting also with planning minister Hisham Al Khatib, Industry and Trade Ministry Secretary-General Mohammad Smadi, Public Works and Housing Minister Abdul Razzak Ensour and with representatives of the newly formed Palestine Company for Development and Invest-

He said the council last met in June of 1992 when the two sides agreed on alternate meetings in Amman and Ankara to chart plans for mutual cooperation in a num-

## BCCI creditors accept \$1.8b Abu Dhabi deal

LONDON (R) — Creditors of the collapsed Bank of Credit and Commerce Interna-

bullion markets Friday.

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The move marks a major step towards resolving the 3-1/2-year long scandal of tional S.A. (BCCI) have BCCI, which was shut down agreed to accept \$1.8 billion in 1991 after the biggest in compeosation from Abu banking fraud in history. The Dhabi in a deal to be news came as former BCCI announced very sbortly, a chief executive Swaleh Naqvi creditors' spokesman has was sentenced in the United States to over 11 years in

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96.76/86

7.0573*1*73

6.4840/90

5.8220/70

\$1.6300/10

1527.3/8.8

prison for bis role in the scandal.

Abu Dhabi, BCCI's majority sharebolder, put the money on the table in March after a previous \$1.7 billion deal, with strings attached, was thrown out by a Luxem-

bourg court a year ago.

Tony Scott of the Britishbased BCCI Depositors Protection Association (DPA) said creditor committees in Luxembourg, the Cayman Islands and Britain - BCCI was registered in all three had now accepted the package to push matters ahead.

Creditors, angry about professional costs so far, are still negotiating with the bank's liquidators Toucbe Ross, however, over the final

"I sbould think there will be an announcement (of the Abu Dhahi agreement) sometime imminently," Mr. Scott told Reuters.

"There are still two key questions — when are creditors going to get their money and how much is it going to he," he added.

The agreement now has to

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go before courts in all three jurisdictions, which may take several months, before Abu Dhabi pays the money to the liquidators - \$1.55 billion on court approval and the rest in two instalments over three years.

Touche Ross, which will issue the formal announcement, declined immediate comment on the deal or what

happens next.
"All I can tell you is, there's nothing we're going to say today," a Touche spokeswoman said. Previously Abu Dhabi and

Touche have hoped the deal, deposit protection schemes and asset recovery would give creditors 30-40 per cent of the \$10 billion or more lost when BCCI collapsed. Under the new terms, the Gulf emirate still stands to be

repaid up to \$450 million of the money if the liquidators are successful in making certain specified recoveries. Creditors — hut not the liquidators - will still be able

to sue Abu Dhabi, though, even if they accept payment. Provisions in the last deal effectively blocking that were a key element in the Luxem-

bourg rejection last October.
"This is a global assessmeot. From Ahu Dhahi's point of view the next step is court approval so finally we can go on and the creditors get paid. That's what we all want," one adviser to the

country's government said. The current deal is just one piece in a jigsaw of claim and counter claim in the BCCI affair, which has involved allegations of fraud, moneylaundering and negligence by

regulators. Creditors, including British action group the DPA, claim that Abu Dhabi shares responsibility with BCCI founder Agha Hassan Abedi and a rack of former officials for the collapse.

Former executives and accomplices have already been jailed in Britain and Abu Dhabi or extradited for ouestioning by United States authorities. The U.S. has also been seeking — unsuccessfully so far — the extradition of Mr. Abedi, who is reported to be in poor health after taking refuge in Pakistan.

Until August, the DPA was resisting the current deal, partly down to the success the U.S. has achieved for creditors there.

Liquidation costs, which the DPA estimates to be at least \$200 million so far, have forced it to cave in amid bitter disputes with Touche Ross, which bas taken the lion's sbare.

Touche Ross meanwhile is still suing the Bank of England, alleging negligence in not closing BCCI down soon-

Ao \$8 billion claim has also beeo made against former BCCI auditors Price Waterhouse and Ernst Young, with a lawsuit likely to follow. Abu Dhabi will only be repaid \$450 million to the extent that any such suits are

successful, advisers say. Former top BCCI executive Swaleh Nagvi was sentenced Wednesday to more than 11 years in prison for his admitted criminal role in the

BCCI scandal.
Federal Judge Joyce Green said in handing down the sentence that Mr. Naqvi should get credit for the nearly three years he spent under house arrest in Abu Dhabi, meaning be still must serve more than eight years in a U.S. prison. Mr. Naqvi in July pleaded

guilty to three criminal charges of fraud and con-spiracy. He admitted he en-gaged with other BCCI executives in a racketeering conspiracy to secretly control several U.S. banks, including First American Bank in the Washington, D.C., area.

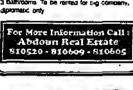




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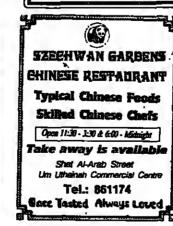
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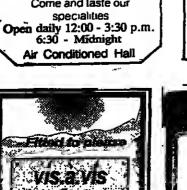
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## King meets taekwondo team

AMMAN (Petra) - His two silver and two bronze these achievements to King Majesty King Hussein Thursday received at the Royal Court members of the Jordan national tackwondo team which represented the Kingdom at the Asian Games which concluded in Hiroshima. Japan, last Sunday. King Hussein thanked the

delegation and voiced pride in its members and their

The taekwondo team won

medals, thus placing Jordan 22nd on the final medals

President of the Jordan Taekwondo Federation Issa Al Rimoni said in an address at the audience that Jordan has won 363 gold, silver and bronze medals at various regional and international tackwondo competitions over the

past 15 years. Mr. Rimoni attributed Hussein's and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan's support for Jordanian

King Hussein conferred upon the coach of the national taekwondo team Al Istiklal Medal of the third order in appreciation of his efforts.

The audience was attended Prince Hassan, His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah. Youth Minister Fawwaz Abul Ghanam and senior officials.

## World No. 1 Sampras rules out quest for Grand Slam

The Elusive Grand Slam of four major titles in the same vear is unlikely to be achieved again, world num-ber one Pete Sampras said

The first and only Grand Slam of The Australian Open, French Open, Wimbledon and U.S. Open was by legendary Australian Rod Laver in 1969, the second year of "Open" tennis. Sampras believes it will

never be repeated, even though greats of the past like Ken Rosewall and Laver himself have said in the past month that he is the only modern player capable of it.

"I don't think it is possible. but you never know." Sam-pras said. "To win all four in today's game is very tough to

Sampras said the variety of surfaces in the game was

following areas:

against a Grand Slam.
In Laver's victorious sweep, the Australian and U.S. Opens and Wimbledon were played on grass and the

French Open on clay. The Australian and U.S. Opens have since moved to hardcourt surfaces.

Sampras has won two U.S. Opens and one Australian Open on hardcourt and two Wimbledon ritles on grass. The French Open on clay has proved to be the most elusive title for him.

Sampras is slowly feeling his way back from injury after a record-breaking start to the year that saw him win eight tournaments and set up a record lead at the top of the men's rankings.

He is in Hong Kong for an exhibition tournmanent, his first outing since pulling out of the Davis Cup last month with a hamstring injury. His

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quarters, open and unheated verandas, or wardrobes should not

only other tournament in the last three months was the U.S. Open, where he was again affected by a leg injury.

The 23-year-old is gradually working his way back to full fitness and hopes to use tournaments in Stockholm and Paris to regain peak form before the ATP Tour World Championship in Frankfurt from November 13.

Despite the loss of a third of the year. Sampras was pleased with his year after winning the Australian Open and Wimbledon

"My goal this year was to win just one major and I won two." he said. "I can live with that for the next 10 years." Sampras was also unconcerned hy suggestions from

former world number one Kevin Goeliner, 6-3, 7-Stefan Edberg that he could easily lose his top ranking in Ivanisevic fell five back and capped the win

with his 16th ace. "I was very lucky," Ivanisevic said. "He said a lot of break points, and every time there was a hreak point I won my serve.

Greg Rusedski Thursday

and reach the quarterfin-

als of the CA Trophy

Rusedski used his own

blistering serve to take

his Croatian opponent 10

two tiehreaks, but Iva-

nisevic found the neces-

sary power at just the

right moments to escape

in straight sets, 7-6 (7-3).

In other play, flam-hoyant U.S. star Andre

Agassi, the No. 3 seed.

looked comfortable in a

6-0. 6-0 drubbing of Au-

stralian Mark Wood-

forde. No. 2 seed Michael Stich of Ger-

many also advanced,

beating countrytman Carsten Braasch 6-3, 6-

Fourth-seeded Tho-

mas Muster of Austria

had a scare when he was

beset by wrist and knee

pain in the middle of his

second set against the

Czech Republic's David

Rikl, but he held on to

In an earlier match.

unseeded Jan Siemerink

of the Netherlands defe-

ated Germany's Marc-

win 6-1, 7-6 (7-4).

7-6 (11-9).

tennis tournament.

Ivanisevic, second in the world ATP rankings. is favoured to defend his title at the \$410,000 CA Trophy event in the Vienna Sunday over American Michael Chang in the final of the Seiko Super tennis tournament in Tokyo. But Agassi is rapidly

Ivanisevic, Agassi, Stich advance in Vienna VIENNA (Agencies) — Top-seeded Goran Ivahecoming a favourite among local fans and innisevic fired 16 aces, terviewers, good-namedly fielding quesmany at critical break points, to beat Canadian tions about his love life

> from his opponents. Agassi is ranked 10th in the world by the ATP following his win at the U.S. Open, where he beat Stich in the final. CA Trophy officials and fans hope for a rematch

and legs as well as serves

in Vienna. Agassi is hanking on a good showing to boost his chances of reaching the ATP's top eight, which would give him place in the Masters Tournament in Frank-

He said at a news conference Wednesday thar he hopes to finish the season in the top five.

### Courier continues demolition job

In Paris, former world number-one Jim Courier continued his one-man demolition of French tennis Thursday when he beat Arnaud Boetsch 6-3, 7-6 (8-6) to reach the quarterfinals at the Lyon ATP event.

In the first round Courier, who is seeded fourth, defeated another French hope — Guy

Top-seeded Ukrainian Andrei Medvedev chalked up an easy 6-3. 6-2 win over Henrik Dreemkann — the German making too many unforced errors in the first set and Medvedev saving his best tennis for the second.

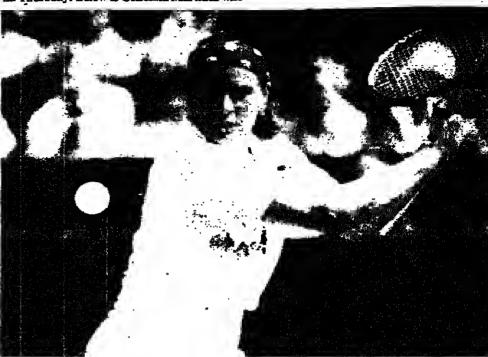
The young Ukranian now faces Australian Davis Cup player Patrick Rafter who scored a 6-3. 6-4 win over Switzerland's Jakob Halsek.

Third-seeded South African Ferreira had to go the distance to beat



Photo above shows Michael Stich who defeated countryman Carsten Braasch 6-3, 6-4 in Vienna Thursday. Below is Conchita Martinez who

Larisa Neiland of Latvia.



Sweden's Lars Rehmann 7-6 (7-4), 7-6 (7-6) and victory meant a showdown with big-serving Swiss Olympic champion Marc Rosset.

Rosset, who won the tournament here in 1990, had to come from a set down to beat Cezch player Danien Vacek 3-6, 6-2, 7-5

The only seed to fall

by the wayside was Mali-Vai Washington of the United States. The wintinez 6-1, 6-3. ner of last week's Ostrava tournament went down to Andrei Chesno-

Chesnokov now faces second-seeded compatriot Yevgeni Kafelníkov for a place in the last a blo Organisers had agreed four.

kov of Russia 4-6, 6-7

There were no surprises in Vienna where top-seed Goran Ivanisevic squeezed past Greg Rusedski of Canada 7-6 (7-3), 7-6 (11-9).

In the day's other results, United States Open champion Andre passi humilitated Mark Woodforde of Australia 6-0, 6-0, while second seed Michael Stich and Austrian fourth-seed Thomas Muster both notched up straight-set

### Martinez bundled out by Neiland

In Brighton, England Larisa Neiland of Latvia emerged as the player to beat at the international women's indoor tourna-

ment here Thursday when she hammered top-seed Conchita Mar-

Neiland, ranked 47th, needed just 51 minutes to send Spain's Wimbledon champion packing and her win immediately raised speculation about Martinez's performance.

to fly Martinez in a pri-, vate jet to Zurich Friday so that she could attend her coach's wedding. Her Thursday defeat means this will no longer be necessary.

Neiland, who hadn't taken a set off Martinez in four previous encounters, claimed after her win that she had sensed that Martinez was "not ready to give me a fight."

"I could see it in her face that she was relaxing. I had a feeling that if I won the first set then I would win the second."

Other winners were second Jana Novotna, fellow Czech Helena Sukova, Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria and Nathalie Tauziat of France.

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a calculator to work out the best odds.

With a balanced 18 points and no diamond stopper. North could do no more than respond two clubs—and was startled to hear partner leap to game to show a self-sufficiant suit and limited values, but great playing potential. When Blackwood revealed no quick loser in diamonds, North could hardly be blamed for taking the plunge in seven spades. In a way, it was an unfortunate

dummy that bit the table. Had the king of hearts been either the king of clubs or queen of diamonds, declarer could have claimed. The actual layout left South with a host of options.

The obvious, and worst, was to simply guess which finesse to take.

Even the best guesser could not get this one with.

Even the best guesser could not get this one right. Considerably better would be to discard a diamond on the king of hearts, draw trumps and cash the ace and king of diamonds. If the ace and king of diamonds. If the queen doesn't drop, cross to dummy with the last trump, discard the remaining diamond on the ace of bearts and ruff a red card to get back to hand. Now the slam depends on the club finesse—tough luck. Alternatively, you can arrange to take a ruffing finesse in clubs, but that's still a 50-50 proposition.

Best of all is to discard a club on Best of all is to discard a club on the king of hearts, cash the ace of clubs and ruff a club high. Return to dimminy with a trump and ruff another club high. When the king comes down, you can, after drawing the last trump, discard two dismonds on the ace of hearts and queen of clubs. If the king doesn't drop, fall back on the diamond finesse.

why is this line best." The chance of finding the club king only twice guarded is better than dropping a standed in better than dropping a doubleton queen of diamonds by al most a whopping 14 percent.

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## Lawyer to pursue Maier civil suit

lawver of the late Austrian Alpine ski racer Ulrike Maier's fiance said Friday he would pursue a civil suit for compensation after ber death in a World Cup downhill last January.

Lawyer Guenther Stanonik said he would also challenge a German prosecutor's findings that there was no proof of negligence on the part of the organisers of the event at Garmisch-Partenkirchen in Germany.

Prosecutors in Munich said Wednesday that they had closed their investigation into the 26-year-old Maier's death.

Munich public prosecutor Ruediger Hoedl said that security officials had been found to have taken sufficient safety measures at the garmisch-parteokirchen course where the former world champion broke her neck in a horrifying crash.

"We are completely unimpressed by this decision," sta-nonik told Reuters by telephone from his Austriao office. "We know that there is a definite case for culpability bere."

He added: "We will certainly pursue all civil channels for a suit and we will challenge the decision of the public prosecutor in Munich."

Stanonik said he and his chem Hubert Schweighofer, who was engaged to Maier and is seeking compensation to bring up their daughter Melanie, would hold a news conference in Munich at the end of October or early November to outline their next move.

Hoedl said that it had been established that Maier died as a result of the back of her neck hitting a mound of snow at the side of the course and not a timing post which television pictures indicated could have been the cause of death.

Stanonik said he was sceptical about this claim. The case can be reopened under German law and an appeal is possible.

Maier's death cast a shadow over the 1993-1994 season and set off an intense debate about increased speed in the sport with improvements in equipment and the use of artificial snow.



### Ulrike Maier

## Warriors defeat Spain's **Joventut Badalona 122-104**

BADALONA, Spain (AP)

— The Golden State War-riors 122-104 victory over European champions Joven-tut Badalona Thursday was not without a few moments that faintly binted the NBA team might be the first to lose to a foreign club.

Joventut, with some of Golden State's starters on the bench, closed to within three points at 5:40 of the second quarter when American Jobn Ebeling made it 47-44. The Spanish club was behind 71-61 at halftime as Golden State struggled with Joventut's zone defences and better

passing.

Latrell Sprewell scored 24
points and Chris Mullin
added 22 to lead Golden State. American Mike Smith had 21 points and 20 re-bounds to lead Joventut. Smith, who bas never played in the NBA, played his college basketball at South Carolina at Spartanburg and is in his seventh season play-

ing in Spain.
"I wasn't very pleased with
mr first balf," Golden State coach Don Nelson said. "We dido't do the things coming out of the lockerroom. I expected my veteran team to execute better from the start.

"The difference in the international game is a big difference... your better passers in the game do better aod others tend to struggle," Nelson added.

He said bis team had trouble with Joventut's zone defences, which are not allowed in the NBA. An enthusiastic crowd of 8,846 in Badalona's Olympic Pavilion — site of basketball in the 1992 Olym-pics — also had Joventut playing over their heads for much of the game.

The fans particularly cheered the play of the War-riors' David Wood, who had 12 points. Wood, who just signed with Golden State, played several seasons in Barcelona for the FC Barce-

Those same fans in this Barcelona suburb have had little to cheer about with Joventut. They are only 5-5 in the Spanish League and clearly had their best game of the season against the War-

Sprewell said there wasn't that much to adjust to. But in truth, Mullins, Sprewell and Tim Hardaway bad glazed over eyes as they answered a few quick questions at a brief

news conference. "The biggest (rules) difference for us was the (zone) defence." Sprewell said. They were able to sag in and that gave us trouble. But other than that, we didn't have too much trouble ad-

justing."

Mullins put it more clearly. "We're all anxious to get bome and get back to our routines," he said. Joventut coach Pedro Martinez was expecting a disas-

"Before the game, I thought we might get slaught-cred," be said. "The second quarter was our best - we were in the game at that point. But there's no question they're the better team."

The Warriors played a stronger second half, but playing two games in Europe in three nights showed.

They defeated the Charlotte Homets Tuesday in Paris 132-116. The NBA technically has

lost once to a non-NBA team, but NBA spokesman Terry Lyons said it didn't count as an "official game." The Atlanta Hawks lost in the last 1980s in Moscow to the Soviet Union's national team in a "summer league" game. Lyons said. He said the game was sanctioned neither by the NBA nor by FIBA, the world governing body of basketball. He also noted the loss was against a national team, not a club

## Early goals set Arsenal on their way

### **EURO ROUNDUP**

PARIS (AFP) — English Premiership giants Arsenal held on grimly after two early goals to score a 2-1 away win over plucky Danish opponents Brondy in their latest European Cup-Winners cup clash Thursday.

Everything had looked plain sailing for the titlebolders in the first-leg of the second-round clash when lan Wright and Alan Smith scored within three minutes of each other in the first quarter of an hour. But, on a freezing evening, the Danes came roaring back to reduce the deficit eight minutes after tbe break tbrough striker

Strudel bad come close to scoring a shocking first mioute goal but be was spectacularly denied by goalkeeper David Seaman.

Both sides had two players booked. Arsenal's Lec Dixon and Stefan Schwarz were shown yellow cards while Brondy's Jens Risaager missed the return for his second caution in the competition.

Arsenal's Loodon rivals Chelsea failed to turn an evening of one-way traffic against ten-man Austria enna into goals.

The visitors, who bad Manfred Schmid sent off for the last twenty minutes for a second yellow card, packed tbeir defence and held out superbly leaving the Stamford Bridge crowd frustrated.

Dennis Wise was involved in some promising carly moves for Chelsea, but he was the object of some vigorous Austrian tackling.
The England midfielder

might well have opened the scoring in the 20th minute but bis effort was thwarted wben Furlong intercepted and beaded over.

Cbelsea's cause wasn't belped by the early removal of Frank Sinclair with hamstring trouble. He was replaced by Anthony Barness. Barness almost immediately contributed a cross that Neil Shipperley put just over the

angle.
The second half brought more Chelsea pressure, but the attacks became more frantic and some of the sbooting more ambitious. David Rocastle, increasingly influential on the right, burst on to a through ball but saw bis 77th minute shot hit the post io Austria's closest call. Eddie Newton hit a good

chance wide, Furlong turned his man and fired just over and Graham Rix had a frec



Manchester's Lee Sharp (top) jumps over an unidentified Barcelona player (on ground) after scoring the second and equalising goal

game at Old Trafford Stadium Wednesday. The match ended in a 2-2 draw (AFP photo)

fender Aloisio.

kick tipped over by Wohl-

Vienna showed in patches and were denied a penalty io the 63rd minute when Flogel was bundled over by Newtorn with the goal gaping.
French side Auxerre surged back after looking

down and out in Istanbul

when Besikitas turned round leading 2-0.
Dzdilek Mehmet opened the scoring for the Turks five minotes from the balf-time whistle and Erturgrulo scored a second just before the teams turned round. It would have been the end of the road

But, to their credit, the French charged back after the restart and produced

for many teams.

their own five-minute blitz in which Algerian frontrunocr Moussa Saib and Corentin Martins were on target to put the teams all square.

Sampdoria, who won the competition in 1990; left in late but finally emerged im-pressive 3-0 home winners over Swiss opponnets Grass-boppers Zurich.

Alessandro Melli put the Italiaos clear from the

second-half kick off wbile Sinisa Mihajlovic (78) and Ricardo Maspero (85) clinched the victory.
FC Port humiuliated visit-

ing Hungarian opponents Ferencyaros 6-0. Already four goals clear on

the hour thanks to two goals

from Drulovic and one apiece

from Jorge Costa and Rui

sent off in the 35th minute, crashed to a 4-0 defeat in front of their fans against Spanish opponents Real Zaragoza. Russian midfield player Gustavo Poyet opened the floodgates in the 26th minute

Baros, the Portuguese side

added two more in the last

three minutes through

Domingos and Brazilian de-

Tatran Presov of Slovakia.

reduced to ten men when

defender Peter Hlusko was

and an own-goal from Varga (44) and two goals from Esnaider 49, 88) followed. The result leaves Presov needing a miracle when the two sides meet again in two week's time in Spain.

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## U.S., N. Korea sign nuclear deal

GENEVA (Agencies) - U.S. and North Korean negotiators signed a landmark accord Friday aimed at ending nuclear tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

The agreement, reached after more than a year of confrontation and start-stop negotiations and decades of suspicion and hitterness. commits North Korea to opening its secretive nuclear programme in return for modern technology, aid and diplomatic links with the Un-

ited States.
Chief U.S. negotiator Robert L. Gallucci and his North Korean counterpart Kang Sok Ju signed the documents at North Korea's diplomatic mission to the United Nations.

After the signing, the de-legations erupted into applause. Mr. Gallucci and Mr. Kang, who led the difficult negonations, appeared relaxed.

"I'll see you again." they joked to each other as they left the small conference

The four-page accord contained an additional two-page confidential document, the contents of which will not be made public.

In additional to curbing North Korea's nuclear amhitions, the two sides notably pledged to "move towards full normalisation of political and economic relations," and work towards a "nuclear-free Korean Peninsula", according to the official text.

The deal is hilled as marking the end of any plans Pyongvang might have to huild an atomic bomh. using plutonium from a type of reactor that will now be scrapped under the terms of the agreement — assuming

During the signing cere-mony. Mr. Gallucci handed the North Koreans a letter from U.S. President Bill Clinton guaranteeing the delivery of light water reactors. than Pyongyang's present system, as well as oil in exchange for a freeze on its Current nuclear programme. On arrival in Geneva on

Friday, Mr. Gallucci who admitted in Washington that the accord was far from perfect, said he hoped "this framework document... should resolve the outstanding issue over DPRK's (North Korea) nuclear programme and... set North Korean-American relations on a better track."

The text notably said that the U.S. will provide full assurances to the DPRK against the threat or use of iuclear weapons by the U.S. In return, "the DPRK will

consistently take steps to implement the North-South oint denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula" and would "engage in North-South dialogue" with Seoul. Defence Secretary William Perry extended two olive branches to Pyongyang to coincide with the accord. Mr. Perry said Washington would consider reducing its troop strength in South Korea if North Korea cut its forces and pulled hack from the peninsula's demilitarised

Mr. Perry said no reduc-tion in the 37,000 strong U.S. troop contingent was under consideration, but added that cuts would he considered when a reduction in (the North Korean) threat has

## Arafat criticises Israel, Hamas and Jordan treaty

GAZA CITY (Agencies) --Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has sharply criticised the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty, calling it a "serious breach of the autonomy accord beween Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

In a speech to some 3.000 supporters, Mr. Arafat also denounced the Israeli closure on Gaza and attacks on Israelis by the Hamas group.

Israel scaled off the Gaza Strip indefinitely after Wednesday's bombing of a Tel Aviv bus that killed 21 people. A Hamas faction claimed responsibility for the

"These orders deprive our sons of their work... they are an attempt to make the Palestinian people kneel down," Mr. Arafat told a rally of 3,000 supporters. Mr. Arafat's aide, Marwan Kanafani, called the closure "a declaration of war, an

economic and social war against the Palestinian socie-Mr. Arafat chided Hamas, that has claimed responsibil-

ity for last week's shooting spree in the Jerusalem cafe district and the kidnapping and killing of an Israeli soldier, as well as the bombing in Tel Aviv. The Palestinian leader cal-

led Hamas an embarassment and said that the attacks. intended to force Israel to release Palestinians held in Israeli jails, were counterpro-

. "Before the Jerusalem operation. Israel intended to release Ahmad Yassin and the female prisoners, Mr. Arafat said. There is no need to say that if this had not happened Prime Minister

Yitzhak Rahin would have released them. Sbeikh Yassin is the spir-

itual leader of Hamas. Mr. Arafat also slammed the draft peace treaty between Israel and Jordan, his concern stemming from Israel's promise to honour Jordan's special role in overseeing Muslim shrines in Jeru-

"Concerning Jerusalem, what has been done in the Jordanian-Israeli agreement is a big and serious breach of what had been signed in Washington between the Mr. Arafat claimed.

"The next barde will be for Jerusalem." Mr. Arafat said, They think it is far off, but we think it is very near."

He urged Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and King Hussein to recognise the Holy City as the "capital

of Palestine." "Listen to me Hussein and Rabin," Mr. Arafat said, referring to the Monarch by name for the first time since

the row flared in July. "Jerusalem is the capital of Palestine, no matter what (treaties) have been signed in

Amman or elsewhere. Correspondents said they had seldom seen Mr. Arafat

in such a rage. He said he was claiming for "the Palestinian people the earthly and spiritual powers" over the holy city.

"I tell everybody, those who will like what I am saying and those who will not, that Jerusalem is our capital and is not negotiable," Mr. Arafat said.

"Our hattle is very difficult. It is the hattle of Terusalem and we will fight it," he

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SIEGE: Israeli soldier checks identity cards of occupied West Bank and the self-rule Gaza Palestinians at Erez crossing point north of Strip (AFP photo) Gaza Strip after the Israeli army sealed off the

## Anani explains highlights of Jordan-Israel treaty

formation Minister Jawad Anani said Israel would withdraw its forces from occupied Jordanian lands within nine months of the exchange of peace treaty documents with Jordan and the withdrawal will lead to the final demarcanon of the common border.

Speaking on Jordan Television, the minister said Jordan had insisted that the demarcation line should be on the hasis of the same internarional boundary line between Jordan and Palestine under the British mandate hut this does not affect the lines dividing the East from the West Banks because the demarcation of Jordanian-Palestinian boundaries can only take place once the Palestinians have achieved liberation from occupation.

Jordan has been able to regain its sovereignty over land and water rights and this is a very essential point pro-vided for in the U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 which served as a hasis for the negotiations. Dr. Anani

Through the peace treaty, Jordan hopes to reach a just and permanent peace that ensures no aggression by one side against the other, ending 46 years of hostility, he added.

The minister noted that Jordan has the right to an 820 duoom plot of land in an area which is currently under Israeli occupation and being

He said that this plot of

for 25 years under a special agreement which would allow Israelis the right of access to this land under Jordanian sovereignty and Jordanian laws and would allow for joint Israeli-Jordanian schemes in the land.

Jordan and Israel have also

agreed to swap five square kilometres of land i. the south. This land has Lan used hy the Israelis to expand their potash plant. The problem was solved when Jordan agreed to swap this land with another five square kilometres from the Israeli side to expand the site of the Arah Potash Company plants and so "we lost nothing there." Dr. Anani said. With these arrangements the minister said Jordan has not only regained its own property hut also transformed the ceasefire line into permanent

He said that the peace treaty calls for cultural and scientific exchange but does not stipulate a Jordanian religious curricula changes Dr. Ana-

The minister said Jordan had insisted that the Middle East region should be free of all such weapons of mass destruction. But Israel insisted that it would not discuss this subject as there are countries still hostile to Israel

using such weapons. Jordan and Israel have agreed to refrain from attacking each other with convenweapons that the banning of all kinds of weapons should land will be leased to Israel be discussed at the regional

Dr. Anani said that with the signing of the Washington Declaration, Jordan and Israel pledged to end the state of belligerency. This means that neither side will allow its lands to be used as a platform for attacks on the other side and that the two sides will seek to settle complaints and disputes in amic-

ahle and peaceful ways. The minister said that under the peace treaty the two sides will exchange diplomatic representation and open emhassies and consulates within one month after the ratification of the docu-

According to the minister, the peace treaty stipulates that the two sides should refrain from using insulting and shameful language against each other through the official information services hut left the door open for the private media to air its views which means neither side can protest against the publication of writers' views

in the press. Dr. Anani said the two sides endorsed articles for power peace plan and a cooperation in tourism trans-NATO airstrike against them port telecommunication and technological and other exchanges in general principles.

The minister noted in particular that the Israelis had asked that Israel and Jordan embark immediately on trade exchanges but Jordan had asked for more time because this requires special agree-Jordan to be marketed in

(Continued on page 7)

## Clinton's tour underscores acceleration of peace process

WASHINGTON (AFP) — an Israeli hus. Hamas has President Bill Clinton's first steadfastly opposed to the tour of the Middle East last week underscores the acceleration of the peace process and at the same the isolation of Syria, which still remains far from an accord with

Israel. Mr. Clinton will participate Wednesday in the signing of a peace treaty between Jordan and Israel — an achievement similar in magnitude to the accord hetween Israel and

Egypt signed some 15 years ago.
Mr. Clinton will address the Knesset, Israel's parliament, then inspect U.S. troops deployed in Kuwait

and travel to Cairo to pay hommage to Egypnan Presi-dent Hosni Muharak for his role as a mediator in the peace process. And even though Syria has

been a sacking point, the White House did not rule out Thursday a meeting with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, which could change the trip dramatically. Such a meeting could take

place in Damascus or Cairo. The last time a U.S. president traveled to Syria was 1974 when Richard Nixon vi-

As a spinoff, this four-day mission could also serve to consolidate Mr. Clinton's stature as statesman with voters at home. The mid-election campaign

is entering its final two weeks and even though Mr. Clinton is not running for office. any rise in his standing could help the Democrats who face the houses of Congress.

possible loss of one or both Mr. Clinton's arrival in Israel will come a week after the Islamic group Hamas killed 22 people in a bloody suicide car-bomh attack on

peace process.

One sign that Syria. which still remains on the U.S. list of countries supporting "terrorism," is not totally out in the cold, U.S. official immediately contacted the Syrians to seek help in controll-

ing the Hamas attacks. Secretary of State Warren Christopher will accompany Mr. Clinton, then head off to the Middle East/North African Economic Summit in Casahlanca, Morocco, Oct.

30 through Nov. 1. The Conference hrings togethers financial institutions, government officials and husinessmen from the United States, Euorpe, the Middle East and the North Africa.

Organised by the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, the conference is supposed to demonstrate the concrete henefits of

Dennis Ross. State Department coordinator for the Middle East described the conference as the economic equivalent of the October 1991 meening in Madrid that launched the peace process.

The United States is counting on the Casahlance summit to help create regional development agents - such as a hank, chamber of commerce and tourism — and to attract private investment.

Lending their weight to the

conference will be the foreign ministers from Russia and France, Andrei Kozyrev and Alain Juppee, the majority of the Israeli camnet and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chief Yasser Arafat. Syria is not sending a rep-

resentative to the meeting.

which it regards as premature

in the absence of a compre-

hensive Middle East peace. But a U.S. official did not rule out the possibility that Damascus may set forth its economic and financial demands in exchange for a peace agreement with Israel. although it has not done so

Mr. Assad has actively criticised the Israeli-Jordanian peace agreement, while saying he will not try to torpedo it.

The Palestinians, who were the first to sign an accord with Israel since 1991. seem to have been marginalised by the events surrounding the latest accord.

The Israeli-Jordanian accord acknowledge Jordan's hosting over the Muslim holy places in East Jerusalem. which the PLO has designs on a the capital of a future Palestinian state.

On the economic front. donor countries have soured on the idea of releasing hundreds of millions of dollars in promised aid to the Palesunians, seeking transparency in the management of these

The United States has taken Mr. Arafat to task for rattempting to control everything himself, complicating the smallest administrative

Meanwhile, Mr. Clinton's visit to Cairo should serve to appease Mr. Muharak who has complained of not heing consulted by Jordan and Israel before concluding their

It could also assuage Mr. Muharak's concerns over not being in the loop over the past weeks on the decision to deploy troops in the Gulf region to counter Iraqi movement near the Kuwait bor-

## U.N. seeks to end Bosnia aid logjam

SARAJEVO (R) — People in a Muslim enclave besieged by Bosnian Serbs are living in nightmarish conditions, a senior aid worker said on Friday as U.N. special envoy Yasushi Akashi began efforts to unblock winter aid for

Mr. Akashi's mission coincided with a North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) meeting to resolve a quarrel with U.N. air power to protect the Muslim enclaves and U.N. forces who guard them.

Kris Janowski of the United Nations High Commis-sioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said conditions in the mountain settlement of Srebrenica were typical after weeks of disruption of the U.N. aid network by Serb

forces.
The enclave in eastern Bosnia, glurted with refugees, has no electricity and is short of food and medicine. Bosnian Serbs have stopped fuel convoys and have allowed only a quarter of its food supplies to cross their checkpoints.

Doctors expect to run out of annibionics and painkillers

"In urban Srehrenica, 90 per cent of the people are displaced persons, Mr. Janowski said after a visit. 'It's like a nightmarish waitmg room with everyone waiting to go home. They want to

get out hut they can't."
There are 22,000 Muslims in Srebrenica, whose pre-war population was no more than 6,000, and 20,000 more in the surrounding area. Mr. Janowski said the

plight was similar in the neighbouring Muslim enclaves of Zepa and Gorazde which have been equally hit by the refusal of the Bosnian Serbs to let many UNHCR convoys cross their territory. The Serbs are also refusing to let fuel supplies cross their

lines to the U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) which is on the verge of being unable to carry out its peacekeeping duties. The blockade follows Bosnian Serb rejection of a big-

in September. Mr. Akashi, the U.N.

King Fahd said.

takeover of Kuwait.

against archaeologists.

secretary-general's repre-sentative in Bosnia, arrived in Sarajevo and was due to meet Bosnian Serb representatives in their capital Pale

on Saturday.
"I think persuasion is necessary but I hope we still have some credibility," the Japanese diplomat said. Mr. Akashi earlier this month coaxed the Serbs to

down aircraft which closed Sarajevo airport for almost three weeks and halted the U.N. air hridge for relief supplies.
The aid situation has been lent urgency hy the onset of winter which will disrupt

U.N. ground convoys even if

withdraw a threat to shoot

Mr. Akashi can get the Serbs to allow them free access. Mr. Akashi was beginning his talks in Sarajevo in an effort to persuade the Muslim-led government to withdraw its forces from a

demilitarised zone near the A Serb deadline for the withdrawal on Thursday passed without incident.

A NATO source said in Brussels as the alliance met that it hoped to reach agreement with the United Nations on the use of air strikes against the Serbs. Peacekeepers have been reluctant to call on NATO fighter-bombers

for fear of retaliation. NATO was willing to compromise on its demand to be allowed to choose its targets and deny the Serbs any warning they would be attacked, he added.

But even if a concensus is reached, other NATO sources said the problem of bureaucratic delays would remain. "They will end up with a form of words which is very muscular hut which fails to stop the rot in NATO's credi-

bility," one source said. NATO puts air power at the peacekeepers' disposal at U.N. request hut has been relegated to a spectating role in the conflict by Mr. Akashi's refusal to confroot the Serbs. The strain on relations be-

tween the organisations was funderlined by a millitary source who said: "The Serbs are laughing at us. We are being dragged down to the U.N.'s level of credibility, which is pretty low these

**NEWS IN BRIEF** 

Relaxation of boycott helps Palestinlans — King Fahd

CAIRO (AFP) - King Fahd of Saudi Arabia has said the decision of Gulf Arab states to ease their boycott of Israel

would serve both the Palestinians and the Middle East

peace process at large. The decision announced last month

'does not directly serve Israel's interests so much as it

represents a step toward the success of efforts to secure a

just and global peace," the king told Egypt's semi-official daily Al Ahram. King Fahd, in the interview published

Friday, said the Palestinians would also benefit since they

needed foreign investment in the autonomous Gaza Strip

and in the West Bank, most of which is still under Israeli

occupation. Asked to comment on the arrests of Muslim

fundamentalists seeking political reforms in Saudi Arabia,

the king insisted his country was "firmly attached to the

Muslim religion, from which it draws its wealth and

stability." The Saudi interior ministry had freed 130 people

and "decided to hold on to 27 others for its investigation,"

Kuwait sees better tles with Jordan

KUWAIT (AFP) - Kuwait's Foreign Minister Sheikh

Sahah Al Ahmad Al Sahah Thursday voiced hope that

Jordanian-Kuwaiti relations would improve. At a joint

press conference with his Italian counterpart Antonio

Martino who was visiting Kuwait, Sheikh Sahah said if

Jordan "continues to act this way, we wish that relations between Jordan and Kuwait would improve." A senior

Kuwaiti official Tuesday told AFP that his country was

ready to normalise relations with Jordan despite some

reservations. These reservations, the officials said, have to

do with Kuwait's refusal to receive 400,000 Jordania s and

Palestinians who used to work in the emirate before the

Gulf crisis. The official, who was not identified by the

agency, said that relations between the two countries might

he back to normal within the coming three months, noting

that Kuwait's policies are now hased on gaining more friendly ties, even with states which supported Iraq in its

Pakistani drug smuggler executed in S. Arabia

DUBAI (R) - Saudi Arabia on Friday executed a

Pakistani convicted of smuggling heroin into the country,

the official Saudi Press Agency said. It said Qul Khan Amir Afdhal was executed in Rivadh but gave no details.

Rapists, murderers and drug smugglers are normally beheaded with a sword in public after Friday prayers in

Byzantine church vandalised in Israel

TEL AVIV (AFP) - Suspected Jewish extremists have

vandalised a Byzantine church in the Nagev desert of

southern Israel, the anniquines department said Friday.

"We have every reason to believe this vile act of vandalism

was carried out hy Jewish religious extremists who for

months have been sending us threatening letters," spokes-woman Efrat Orbach told AFP. She said the vandals

apparently used shovels and picks to demolish mosaics

dating back to the sixth century B.C. as well as marble

pillars at the church near the town of Domona, Ultra-

orthodox Jews campaign against archaeological digs on the

grounds that they often desecrate Jewish hurial sites. An

extremist group called Keshet bas even issued death threats

### Night rhythms bad news for workers

LONDON (R) - British researchers have found clear evidence that night workers are at higher risk of injury than colleagues on day shifts, a study published in the Lan-cet medical journal said Saturday. Dr. Lawrence Smith and his colleagues at the University of Sheffield, in northern England, also found the risk of injury on night shifts increased towards the end of the working week. "Our study offers clear evidence that safety is reduced during night work, at least relative to the morning shift," said the study based on analysis of 4,645 injury records among 4,250 nightshift workers in a year at a large engineering companay. The company operated a three-shift system of eight hours each to allow roundthe-clock work from Monday to Friday. "The frequency of injuries increased significantly from the morning shift (6 a.m. to 2 p.m.). through the afternoon shift (2 p.m. to 8 p.m.) to the night shift (g p.m. to 6 a.m. the next day)," the study said. Nearly 30 per cent of injuries occurred in the morning, 34 per cent in the afternoon and more than 36 per cent at night. The study, which also found that night-time accidents were more severe than those during the day, said the higher accident rate did not appear to be a function of lack of sleep since workers on night shifts had more sleep than day workers. "It seems more likely that the increased injury rates at night reflect workers circadian rhythms in performance capabilities and alertness, which had failed to adjust sufficiently to the night shift, it said. Circadian biorhythms are a person's 24hour body clock. The rhythms have an impact on production of the adrenal steroid hormone Crotisol, which cootrols many vital body processes.

### Heart drug may help treast frstbite --- study

LONDON (R) - A drug used mainly to treat beart and blood vessel disorders has been successful in treating frostbite, according to an Austrian study published Saturday, 'Doctor Ernt Groechenig of the Landeskrankenhhaus (District Hospital) in Feldkirch, austria, reported in the medical journal Lancet that he had successfully treated five patientse - four meo and a woman - with the drug. Intravenous Hoprost. They all recovered fully, without the need for amputation. Dr. Groechenig said the patients. who had moderate to severe frotbite after exposure to extremely cold temperatures, were warmed up and then given Hoprost for between 14 and 42 dayse. "In view of what is known about the pathophysiology of frostbite, we believe that therapy with Roprost could be a very potent treatment." he said. Serious frosthite can lead to gangrene because cells hreak down and blood supply is cut off by small clots in the vessels. Iloprost is a derivative of Prostacyclin. a naturalaly occurring hormone that helps control viscosity of the blood.

### Chinese officials flock to Macau casinos

BEIJING (R) — A growing number of officals in China's southern Guangdong pro-vince have been flocking to casmos in Macau with embezzled state funds, the Publica-nons Digest said. It said incomplete statistics provided by provincial officials show that more than 100 cases of corruption or embezzlement have been uncovered in recent years involving officials bound for casinos ahroad. The embezelled funds totalled more than 100 million yuan (\$11.7 million) and a majority flowed into casinos in the neighbouring Portuguese-run territory of Macau, the daily said in an edinon seen in Beijing Friday. About 100 people from an unidentified city in Guangdong travel to Macau 4 each day just to gamble, the newspaper said. Some are influential executives at enterprises while others are government officials. Some "plunge into casinos and gamble like crazy," it said.

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